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DECEMBER 1, 1952

THE JERUSALEM POST

24-Page
ECONOMIC
SUPPLEMENT

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Column One
By
David Courtney

LIKE newspapers. They are a habit, of course; just as it is a habit to read the newspaper carefully each morning and then scoff at everything it says. I like newspaper-men. Perhaps that is a habit, too; just as it is a habit of politicians and public servants to dislike newspaper-men, who ask too many questions, and, what is much worse, print the answers. I like the click of the typewriter, the smooth wave-flow of the rotary, the smell of printer's ink, the fresh, wet feel of the first sheets off the press.

IT is good, therefore, when a paper keeps alive for twenty years—and looks like keeping alive for more years ahead. The Jerusalem Post is twenty years old to-day. There cannot be many newspapers that have lasted twenty years against obstacles quite as many and quite as serious as those which have harassed this newspaper. It has been short of money. It has drawn upon itself the powerful wrath of an administration whose language it spoke. It has been torn to pieces by a bomb and fire bombs on end had to work half the time by car, daylight and, much of the time under shellfire. It has seen some thousands of its readers, in one move, get up and leave the country; and, with the coming of the sovereign State it had worked for, became a foreign-language newspaper in the dawning epoch of Israel.

IT needs a pretty good newspaper to go through such shocks and keep not only its vitality, but also its solvency. The Jerusalem Post is, indeed, a pretty good newspaper. This Columnist, not being a staff member but being something of a self-willed contributor whose notions of affairs have often caused the editorial hair to stand on end, has a certain right to say: There are many few newspapers to-day which are ready to print independent opinions that stray from policy. The Jerusalem Post is among them. The fact is something to be proud of; just as being part of the evidence that proves the fact is something to be proud of.

IT therefore, besides being

everything that goes to the making of The Jerusalem Post, not only because it helps me to make a living but also because it helps me to keep my self-respect. That, admittedly, is my own affair and not a matter for public airing; but nowadays the independent writer often has to choose between his independence and his daily bread; and, when not compelled to make that choice, feels he has something to boast about. Besides, it adds to his sense of responsibility, and no one can be a good newspaperman without a sense of responsibility; no newspaper can be a good newspaper without it.

The Cabinet also approved the Draft of the World War II Invalids Bill. A Government spokesman explained that those affected by the Law include invalids who served in Allied forces, members of Partisan or other illegal groups who fought against Germany or her Allies during the War, and also invalids of any illegal Jewish groups engaged in the fight for liberation, even if the group was not organized by the Jewish National Institutions.

Sugar, Margarine Go Up in Price

HIGHER prices for certain food items will go into effect tomorrow, it was announced yesterday in Tel Aviv. Sugar will be sold for 250 pruta a kilo, (formerly 180 pruta); flour, 170 pruta (120); margarine, 200 pruta (180); and toilet soap, 120 pruta a kilogram.

Price increases on tea, coffee and other commodities will be announced later.

The first announcement on recent price increases, published about two weeks ago, established new prices for flour, bread and bakery products.

Tax Delinquents May Catch Up This Month

APPEALING to all citizens of Israel to do their duty by paying the correct amount of income tax due to the State, Mr. Levi Eshkol, Minister of Finance, stated over Kiel Radio last night that the month of December would be announced as a special period for the paying of income tax arrears. Mr. Eshkol spoke on "The Citizen and the State Tax." All citizens who paid their income tax arrears during the month would be freed of fines and of any other punishment to which they were liable for not having paid their taxes in time.

Joseph Talk Tonight

Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of Commerce and Industry, will give his monthly broadcast tonight after the 8:30 p.m. news.

Three Faiths Dedicate Obelisk at Bergen Belsen

BERGEN BELSEN, Sunday (Reuter).—A Rabbi, a Roman Catholic priest and a Protestant person today dedicated a 25 metre sandstone obelisk here to the memory of Jews and other victims of the Nazi death camp.

The head of the British 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade played a funeral march as Jews, Germans, Britons, Americans, Greeks, Belgians, Danes and Yugoslavs laid wreaths at the foot of the memorial which bears, in 14 languages, the words "To the Victims of Nazi Tyranny."

Bergen Belsen, most notorious of the German death camps, was headed by Josef Kramer, "Beast of Belsen." Also active there was the Koch, "Bitch of Belsen". British officials found, on its liberation, lists containing the names of 30,000 persons condemned to death there. Between 30,000 and 40,000 prisoners were found half-alive.

A German Protection Bill was approved and will be taken in the House.

Agency, Government Discuss Investments

A meeting to discuss the encouragement of capital investments in Israel was held at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem yesterday. Mr. Ben Gurion, economic minister and high government officials participated. The Jewish Agency Executive was represented by Mrs. Rose Halperin and Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

THE HYPOTHETICAL PROPOSAL of the Finance Ministry was approved. The ministerial committee on budgets was instructed to establish an inter-ministerial committee to examine the economic position and taxation.

A Bill on World War II invalids was approved, and will soon be sent to the Knesset. The Finance Ministry's proposal to the Finance Committee Law, to provide for members of the Haganah and persons mobilized by the El Alim Executive Board, the Fund Council, will also be taken.

A Tenant's Protection Bill was approved and will be taken in the House.

GOOD newspaper is hard to define. It depends on the wide suffusion of information at the source and the responsible use of it by editors. It depends on the active exercise by government of the principle of a free press and of free expression of opinion. It depends on well-trained newspapermen of high professional integrity and public spirit. It depends on the intelligence of the public it serves. The Jerusalem Post, it seems to me, has stood up exceptionally well to these standards during its first twenty years. It begins its second score years under the buffeting pressures of world events and world complications that will do their best to lessen those standards, as they have lessened them in so many instances. But the Post, like the State of Israel itself, has an obstinate way of its own and should prove hard to shift. Good luck to it, then; and to its readers.

Jerusalem, Dec. 1.

DECEMBER 1952 — TIME TO PAY Income Tax Debts

I hereby appeal to all Israeli residents who have not yet paid their Income Tax or Companies Profit Tax, with an urgent request for payment of all their debts during December, 1952, whether these debts are imposed by assessment, orders for account, payment or taxation of undeclared income.

The Assessing Officers will not impose or collect any fine on debts paid during this month.

Persons not paying their debts by the end of December, 1952, will be compelled to pay them by law.

I sincerely hope that every citizen who owes Income Tax will do his best to comply with my request, thus avoiding any unpleasantness and at the same time assisting the Government to fulfil its obligations to the citizens of the State.

LEVY ESHKOL
Ministry of Finance

Mixed with our sorrow today is admiration, and great humility before the undaunted courage of these millions of Jews. Going to their death, they were fully conscious that this was their fate as Jews, indeed that they were dying only because they were Jews. They went to their death proud and confident, demonstrating heroic loyalty to their people and religion.

Ghetto Revolts

Thousands defied the superior might of their Nazi oppressors.

The routines in the ghettos of Warsaw and Vilna, the uprisings in Bialystok and other cities of the East, are among the most glorious epochs in the history of

Lie Advised To Check Charges Of Subversion

UNITED NATIONS, Sunday (UPI).—The Secretary-General of the U.N. was advised today by a legal board he appointed, to investigate charges of subversive activities made against U.N. employees in the United States.

The lawyers advised Mr. Lie to establish an advisory board to weigh charges against secretariat members suspected of engaging in subversive activities. He should investigate secretariat members charged with having at one time been members of organizations declared by law to be subversive in the host country... but a charge alone should not be grounds for dismissal."

Mr. Lie had appointed Mr. William D. Mitchell, U.S. Sir Edwin Herbert, Britain, and Professor Paul Vellekoop, Holland, to advise him in connection with the investigations of the U.N. secretariat by the Internal Security Sub-Committee of the American Senate Judiciary Committee (The McCarran committee).

He is not bound by their findings and he is expected to comment on them next week.

Opinion Disturbed

"Public opinion in the U.S. is gravely disturbed as to the possibility that the U.S. may be harbouring on its staff persons who are, or have been, engaged in subversive activities in the United States," the report said. It added that it was both inevitable and wholly desirable that U.N. employment should be available to citizens of countries which have Communist régimes.

"But if they are to be accepted as guests, they must accept the obligations of guests and refrain from activities regarded as subversive by the laws of the host country."

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In this appears clear that an agreement now reached by the U.N. could be used to affect this.

The group had as its ultimate aim "the victory of the Communist revolution, liberation of all Arab territories into one democratic state ruled by the Arab Arab Communist party."

Cairo radio announced tonight the release of another 27 of those arrested here during the disturbances, that General Nasser's seizure of power. Some of those in this second group to be freed will remain under police surveillance.

TYPHON IN S. AFRICA JOHANNESBURG, Sunday (AP).—Four hundred people were injured by a typhoon near Johannesburg this evening, according to first police reports.

people, demonstrated by their hope and prayers for an independent Jewish State in Palestine, that gave them the courage to endure the trials and tribulations, no mere chronological coincidences, but a realization of our people, an independent people, that there are no greater aspirations than those of the ideas of nationalism, legitimate as they may be, are surpassed in importance, in greatness, in moral and spiritual value, the idea of the brotherhood of man.

ABJURE RACISM

Dr. Goldsmith concurred: "I am here as the humble representative of the people that has suffered more than all others under National Socialist rule. We are, no more than any other people, a nationalistic people, and the realization that no people has a greater claim to existence than ourselves is the neighborhood that there are no greater aspirations than those of the ideas of nationalism, legitimate as they may be, are surpassed in importance, in greatness, in moral and spiritual value, the idea of the brotherhood of man."

Dr. Goldsmith, both German and non-German, take a solemn oath to the people of Palestine that gave them the courage to endure the trials and tribulations, no mere chronological coincidences, but a realization of our people, an independent people, that there are no greater aspirations than those of the ideas of nationalism, legitimate as they may be, are surpassed in importance, in greatness, in moral and spiritual value, the idea of the brotherhood of man."

JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HUMILIATED

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DR. GOLDMITH'S SPEECH

Dr. Goldsmith told the assembly: "Speaking in the name of world Jewry, I solemnly reaffirm our unshakable pledge never to forget these, our martyrs, who died for no other reason than that they were Jews. Our solemn pledge to carry them forth, in our hearts and in the hearts of our children and grandchildren, into the future, with that infinite capacity for remembrance which, has always characterized our people. The tens of thousands interred here are symbolic for us all the millions who met their tragic fate in Auschwitz, Treblinka, Dachau, in Warsaw and in Vilna and in Bialystok and in innumerable other places."

"WE ARE HERE AS THE HUMBLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE THAT HAS SUFFERED MORE THAN ALL OTHERS UNDER NATIONAL SOCIALIST RULE. WE ARE, NO MORE THAN ANY OTHER PEOPLE, A NATIONALISTIC PEOPLE, AND THE REALIZATION THAT NO PEOPLE HAS A GREATER CLAIM TO EXISTENCE THAN Ourselves IS THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT THERE ARE NO GREATER ASPIRATIONS THAN THOSE OF THE IDEAS OF NATIONALISM, LEGITIMATE AS THEY MAY BE, ARE SURPASSED IN IMPORTANCE, IN GREATNESS, IN MORAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUE, THE IDEA OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN."

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Today's Post Bag**THE WEATHER**

TEL AVIV. Sunday. — The Municipal Council tonight approved its IL 18,550,000 budget for the current year. The Herut faction, which until recently had been considered part of the Council's coalition, voted against the budget, as did all the labour factions. The Progressive member was absent. The vote was 14 to 11, with the Religious councillors and the Yeshiva members supporting the General Zionists.

The Ashdod internal airline company, which has been commanded plane now understanding that overhead is due to be returned to regular daily service on the Lydda-Bethlehem route within three months. During recent weeks a steady service has been maintained with a plane borrowed from El Al which at present flies only in Europe because of adverse weather.

Mapai won 14 of the 20 seats cast in the election of the civil servants' local committee in Haifa. Of the 20 eligible voters 11 cast their votes for Mapai, giving them 11 seats. The other seven were for Progressives 5; (one seat); Mapai, 10 (one); General Zionists 10 (none); and Mapad-Hamizraim 10 (none).

After staging a one-week hunger strike in the Tel Aviv welfare office, about 1,000 local men, emasculated from weakness and was transferred to the Sarafad Hospital. He had declared the strike in protest of the recent demolition

Some 70 unemployed from Acre demonstrated before the Ministry of Labour offices at the Ministry of Finance, demanding "work and bread." They dispersed when representations were received by Minister of Labour. It was informed that their demands for work would be investigated.

For killing a policeman, who tried to restore order at the Tel Aviv Sabbath during his divorce case, Mr. Yosef Alshich, 21, of Meir Salomon, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. His father, Yaacov Alshich, 56, was sentenced to three years, his 21-year-old son, Yosef, sentenced to one month's imprisonment by the Tel Aviv magistrate yesterday.

For killing a guard and policemen who intervened when they tried to enter the building department of the Ministry of Education out of their turn last October, Mordechai Musman, 34, of Hader Yosef and Menachem Shabtai, 27, of Great Monte, both were sentenced to two years to prison terms and fines in Tel Aviv yesterday. Musman was given two years and a fine of IL 35 plus with the alternative of two weeks in jail; in lieu of the fine, and Shabtai to one month imprisonment and IL 35 fine with the alternative of a week in jail.

A truck driver was arrested and detained on Friday by two inspectors of the southern area food control office who succeeded in intercepting a truck loaded with 500 kilos of flour from Kfar Saba to the outskirts of Petah Tikva.

Mails at the Post Office of the Wetzmann Agricultural school in the Negev on Friday was provided by the Post Office "PO quarter" as reported yesterday.

Haifa Woman Burned

HAIFA, Sunday. — A woman was badly burned when a fire broke out in her home at Rehov Hashmonaim here this morning. The woman, Firda Nassaf, 36, was taken to the Rambam Hospital in a Magen David Adom ambulance.

The volunteer and municipal fire brigades, who put out the flames, believe that it may have been caused by an overturned kerosene stove.

Violinist Injured

TEL AVIV, Sunday. — Sacha Barnes, the violinist, was slightly injured when a statue fell on his foot last night after a concert he was given first edition and set at the Tel Aviv Museum, returned home.

SIX PLACES CLOSED FOR 'BLACK' FOOD

TEL AVIV, Sunday (ITIM). — Two pensions, two restaurants, one cafe and one buffet were closed last week by the Food Control office.

For serving meat without coupons and at excessive prices, Pension Baruch Lechman and Pension Rina Hirsch were closed for two weeks down for one month and two weeks respectively.

The restaurants of Moshe Rokach in Herzl Street, Moshav Shlomo in Nathanya were closed for one and two months respectively, after large quantities of imported sausages were found. The cafe of Peasie Lemkin in Nishon Lezion and the buffet of Yaacov Efroni in Herzl Street, Tel Aviv, for one month each after Food Control Inspectors found black market goods.

T.A. Municipal Council Approves IL 18m. Budget for Fiscal Year

TEL AVIV. Sunday. — The Municipal Council tonight approved its IL 18,550,000 budget for the current year. The Herut faction, which until recently had been considered part of the Council's coalition, voted against the budget, as did all the labour factions. The Progressive member was absent.

J'lem Opposition Warns Of Boycott

A warning that the Opposition would boycott future meetings of the Jerusalem Municipal Council unless the problems of unemployment and schools were placed on the agenda was voiced last night at the regular Council meeting.

The Opposition condemned the agenda, as drawn up by Mayor Y. Kariv (Orthodox Bloc) as "wholly devoid of reality and responsibility." It was pointed out that the city had been doing "almost nothing" to find work for the jobless, that school janitors have been on a strike for 10 days, that 1,800 children have been unable to attend night school because of a teachers' strike with a general teachers' strike threatened, and that the school construction programme is at a standstill.

But none of these items are included on the agenda, the Opposition asserted, adding that if the issues were not brought up at either the special meeting for Thursday or next Sunday, they would walk out.

Mr. R. Shari (Mapai) called the agenda "still another example of ineffectual administration," and proposed the dissolution of the Council and appointment of a three-man body to administer the city.

The Mayor announced that all the problems were "under study" and expressed the opinion that there were more important issues facing the city, such as authority to hire an assistant municipal attorney and to pass an enabling act to the recently approved business tax ordinance. Both proposals were later adopted.

Mayors Explain Position

Mayor Kariv maintained that the night school teachers' strike was caused by the Ministry of Education's decision to pay only 70 per cent of the city education expenses, instead of 80 per cent as in the past. He stated that the Municipality was only in a position to pay 20 per cent of the expenses, and he had therefore informed all the teachers that they would only receive 80 per cent of their salaries for November.

The remaining 10 per cent would have to come from the Ministry, he insisted, as well as the money to pay the night school teachers and janitors. School construction and repair were lagging because the city has not submitted sufficient information to the Ministry in order to get a IL 180,000 grant that has already been allotted, the Mayor said.

Archibald Ross Sees Ben Gurion in Capital

Awards have been given by the Prime Minister to five Arab mothers each of whom gave birth to 10 children. The heads of the families, three of whom are from Bak'el Gharbiyah and two from Jatt, received messages of congratulations signed by Mr. Ben Gurion, accompanied by cheques.

POST Birthday Party

(Continued from page 1) paper's premises on February 1, 1948, and in the fighting preceding and during Israel's War of Liberation.

Twenty journalists who at various times served on the paper and now are in the United States, sent a joint cable from New York expressing hope for the paper's continued success and regrets at their absence from the celebration of its 20th anniversary.

Mr. Ross will meet Foreign Minister Sharrett officially tomorrow. He will remain in the U.S. for a month.

About 7,000 Belgian francs, IL 35 and identification papers were stolen from the pocket of Yaacov Frances of Yeshua while he was waiting for a bus in the Tel Aviv bus station. The sum was picked from the pocket of Yosef Menachem of Lydda, while he was queuing at a Tel Aviv bus stop.

Personal Notices

Our heartiest congratulations to **The Jerusalem Post** on the occasion of its **20th ANNIVERSARY**

Pales Press Co. Ltd.

Distributors. The Jerusalem Post

Walter Schoenholz

Ilse Schoenholz
(nee Sternberg)

MARRIED

1060 Francisco St., San Francisco 2, California, U.S.A.

November 30, 1952.

SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION
ISRAEL COMMITTEE

THE CONSECRATION of the TOMBSTONE
of our late revered leader

JOSEPH JANOWER

(Founder and First Chairman of the Israel Committee and Director of the Keren Kayemeth Le'Israel) will take place at the OLD CEMETERY, Tzur Hadassah Street, Tel Aviv, on MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, at 11 a.m.

All friends are kindly requested to attend. Attention is drawn to the separate announcement by the K.W.L. in connection with the planting of a memorial forest at TZORAH on December 7, at 12 noon.

In the matter of the late Jacob Ehrlich died at New York City on December 12, 1952.

Petitioners: Mina Herz and Joseph Ehrlich, represented by Dr. A. Wurchember, 13 Rehov Ahad Ha'am, Tel Aviv.

Summons—let all persons take notice that Mina Herz and Joseph Ehrlich have applied to the District Court of Haifa for an order declaring the succession of the late Jacob Ehrlich, and that the said application will be heard on 24.12.52 at 10 a.m.

Any persons claiming any interest must appear at the said place and date, otherwise such order will be given as to the Court seems right.

Korean Ministers Wear Best Suits

SEOUL. Sunday. — South Korean Prime Minister, Gen. Park Chung-hee, who arrived in Korea on Saturday, and his cabinet ministers, who are standing by him, are wearing best suits. Cabinet ministers have been instructed to wear their best suits, the government added.

Eight Owners, Groups Oppose Forced Loan

TEL AVIV. Sunday. — Eight commercial and industrial associations decided today to appeal to the Government and the Knesset against the passage of the emergency property tax and enforced loan bill tabled by the Minister of Finance recently.

The Opposition condemned the agenda, as drawn up by Mayor Y. Kariv (Orthodox Bloc) as "wholly devoid of reality and responsibility." It was pointed out that the city had been doing "almost nothing" to find work for the jobless, that school janitors have been on a strike for 10 days, that 1,800 children have been unable to attend night school because of a teachers' strike with a general teachers' strike threatened, and that the school construction programme is at a standstill.

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Technion Teacher Going To Indian Conference

HAIFA. Sunday. — UNESCO has invited Dr. H. Neumann, Professor of Civil Engineering at the Technion and head of the building Materials Testing Laboratory to take part in a South Asian symposium at New Delhi from December 23 to 27. "Scientific Principles and Their Application in Tropical Building Design" is the subject of the conference.

Following research at Dr. Neumann's laboratory at the Technion on the construction of houses, the possibility of starting a "non-payment drive" was among the suggestions heard at the meeting, it was learned.

Landowners Ask For Higher Compensation

POST Legal Correspondent

The expropriation of land for the construction of a new Government centre between the Bet Hakerem and Rehavia quarters in Jerusalem was the subject of a motion before Judge Witton, Relieving President of the Jerusalem District Court yesterday. The landlords are asking higher compensation.

Five landowners pleaded that the Government had expropriated the land in December 1951 at IL 3,500 per square metre, when experts had assessed it at IL 8. The area in question covers 6,250 square metres. The five landowners are Mr. Z. Einhorn, Mr. J. Rubin, Mr. E. Kammar, Mr. Y. Karton and Mr. H. H. Krongold. Mr. Y. Ditzis is appearing for the Government.

The remaining 10 per cent would have to come from the Ministry, he insisted, as well as the money to pay the night school teachers and janitors. School construction and repair were lagging because the city has not submitted sufficient information to the Ministry in order to get a IL 180,000 grant that has already been allotted, the Mayor said.

Negev Dam to Hold 20,000 Cubic Metres

BEERSHEBA. Sunday (ITIM). — An experimental dam which will hold back about 20,000 cubic metres of water has been built near Edel Boker settlement in the Negev.

The water will be used by the settlers and the 600 sheep which they expect from Turkey and Argentina in January 1953 following signature of an agreement with an Argentine exporter.

Steel Drum Factory Expected to Reopen

HAIFA. Sunday.—The Van Leer steel drum factory which has been idle since last March for lack of raw materials may resume production early next month, it is learned here. The reason for its prolonged closure has been the Finance Minister's inability to allocate foreign exchange for sheet steel.

It is understood that while the Ministry is still unable to provide foreign currency for this import, an arrangement is being negotiated whereby the raw material is to be brought here as an unpaid import. A rise in the price of steel drums, widely used in the chemical and food industry, will therefore be inevitable.

Liberty was a glass wall, and never tried to scale it. It was never wrong, as the Prague trial showed. But an editor was like the commander of an army—he must be prepared to withstand those who criticize the manner in which he leads the army.

Independence, the Editor concluded, was the right to decide on a given line and stick to it, guided by conscience. It was compounded of respect for the other man's opinion and a willingness to listen to it. The degree of independence was the image of the man, as of a nation.

During the luncheon, an auction in aid of The Post-Soviet Toy Fund, was conducted by Mr. M. Pinto, of the Staff Committee. The three toys auctioned fetched IL 121. The sum was doubled by a Board member, Mr. A. Mohill, and brought up to IL 282 by another IL 20 sent in by Mr. I. Gluck. The total received so far is IL 3,506.550.

DISTRICT COURT OF HAIFA, P.R. 337/52

In the matter of the late Jacob Ehrlich died at New York City on December 12, 1952.

Petitioners: Mina Herz and Joseph Ehrlich, represented by Dr. A. Wurchember, 13 Rehov Ahad Ha'am, Tel Aviv.

Summons—let all persons take notice that Mina Herz and Joseph Ehrlich have applied to the District Court of Haifa for an order declaring the succession of the late Jacob Ehrlich, and that the said application will be heard on 24.12.52 at 10 a.m.

Any persons claiming any interest must appear at the said place and date, otherwise such order will be given as to the Court seems right.

Mr. Barkai, of Tel Aviv, on behalf of the Board, congratulated the staff on the paper's quality and courage. Mr. M. Raam, Chief Accountant, spoke for the administrative staff; Mr. S. Zarankin (Tel Aviv), who had come to The Post from its predecessor, "The Palestine Bulletin," for those longest with the organization; and Mr. E. Stern, for the press workers.

The Editor and Managing Director, Mr. Gershon Agron, said the paper was fortunate in a staff dedicated to its purpose and loyal in their duty towards it and its public. He instanced today's Economic Supplement as the work of men who had, independently, planned and carried it out under the Managing Editor's direction. — Dr. Eugen Mayer, Dr. Walter Grunfeld,

Socialist Leader Of India, Mapai Guest

TEL AVIV. Sunday. — Mr. M. H. Gokhale, Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Indian Socialist Party, arrived here today for a two-day visit at the invitation of Mapai.

Mr. Gokhale attended the Socialist International Congress in Milan before touring Europe, and is now on his way back to India. He told an ITIM correspondent at Lydda Airport that he was going to confer with leading Socialists here on the forthcoming Asian Socialist Congress in Burma.

In Tel Aviv, Mr. Gokhale was received at the lawyer that the information was almost a master of the Foreign Relations Department, and later visited the Holon Housing project. He was entertained to dinner by the Mapai Central Committee, including Mr. M. Argov, Secretary General of Mapai, and Mr. M. Namir, Secretary-General of the Histadrut. Tomorrow he is expected to be received by the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

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After studying a pre-trial deposition he had made, Professor Einstein said that some needed a slight modification.

"Would you say, Mr. Einstein, that you had made a mistake?" Judge Yitzhak Shapira asked. "Yes, that could be."

A forced loan on immoveable properties foreshadowed nationalization of private property, and, moreover, had no economic grounds, the resolution said. Presented at the two-hour meeting this evening were the associations of manufacturers, farmers, landlords, and general merchants, with the contractors' centre and the Chambers of Commerce of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

Mr. I. Yitshak Ziv Av, Director of the Farmers' Association and former Public Relations Director of the Ministry of Finance, told correspondents after the meeting that property owners "simply did not have the means to pay a new tax," and that it was a "great national effort" to oppose such a tax, which "could not be implemented anyway."

The possibility of starting a "non-payment drive" was among the suggestions heard at the meeting, it was learned.

Landowners Ask For Higher Compensation

POST Legal Correspondent

The expropriation of land

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Monday, December 1, 1952
Elder 15, 1952 - Total 16, 1952

A DIVERSITY makes strange bedfellows and one of the very minor but not negligible repercussions of the Prague trial was the appearance of yesterday's Strange Bedfellows day of the year.

A list of an article by the General Zionist leader, Perez Bernstein, featured prominently in black type in a large box on the front page of the Mapam organ "Al Hamishmar."

Bernstein's effusion, extracted from Friday's "Ha'aretz," was designed to take Mapai to task for challenging Mapam. How dare they when in fact they were equally guilty with Mapai in their major crimes against the Jewish State? He went on to describe what those offenses were. Mapai like Mapam had been training the youth of Israel in class warfare and had been infusing them with socialist doctrine. Therefore, by inference, if guilty fell upon one why not on the other and how dare they let both indulge in recrimination?

Dr. Bernstein's purpose, of course, was obvious. As an advocate of private enterprise he has one aim: to discredit anything left-of-centre by any means that come to hand. Any move to give more freedom to the masses, to establish better labour conditions, to improve social welfare in the possible dismemberment of capital can in the atmosphere of press or ideological tensions well be pushed even further left than it really is and nowadays there are many who are ready to agree that anything infinitesimally progressive may well be labelled red.

The motivation of "Al Hamishmar" is not quite so clear. Are they really suggesting to their readers that Mapai's brand of socialism is as service to the Cominform as their own? Are they then endorsing the remarks of Dr. Bernstein and suggesting that in effect both parties pursue identical ideological paths and therefore Mapai is out of order in taking them in task? If not, then why this desire to stink kinship in their misery. And how do they justify ideologically the recruiting of sons of Israel's arch capitalist, even on this aspect of the class struggle no evidence? Are they really feeling baffled as all that, that they have to resort to such dubious aids?

These are questions which Mapam will have to answer for themselves. The facts are, of course, evident to the veriest tyro in political theory. Mapai is proudly and consistently Social Democratic. They believe that in such a socialist theory lies the way of improvement for the working masses and the whole nation. They believe as an article of faith, that with education, with the gradual attainment by one limited social objective after the other they will in time bring happiness, prosperity and security to the country. They believe in the slow development of society through organized co-operation attained through the growth of political consciousness among the masses. They believe that the way of social evolution is preferable to the seizure of power by a few of the workers on behalf of their whole nation without the specific demands of that class. In their attitude to the youth movement they believe that these things can be incarnated in the minds of the young who are naturally more prone to follow extremes, expressed openly and they feel that many traditional human values are being lost.

Now on Mapai. They may be defined as schizophaenics divided in their minds between Communism and Zionism. Communists do not believe in gradualism. They hold that power once attained must never be relinquished. They do not stand as the organs of Government are in their hands, to relinquish one shred of what they have gained and their programme is the total destruction of the old regime so that there can be no possibility of society changing its mind or organizing public opinion towards a change. Between these two extremes there is very little common ground. That the Bernsteins should pretend there is, is in the natural order of political machination. The Mapam deserve no one but themselves in their attempt to take over behind this pretence. The nation is not deceived.

Mikumi, Touhi Za
Route from Warsaw

TEL AVIV, Sunday — Mr. S. Mikumi and Mr. Touhi Za, Communist members of the Knesset, are now on their way back to Israel from Warsaw. According to a cable received at Communist Party headquarters here today, they had been previously visited Mikumi to attend the Communist Party Congress there. Their route home from Warsaw to Israel is not yet known.

MINORITY ISSUES DOMINATE PARTY PLATFORMS South Africa Election Outlook

By JOHN WORRALL

CAPE TOWN.—

This general election announ-

ced for next April will be

the next stage in South Africa's

constitutional crisis caused by

the attempt of Dr. Malan's Na-

tionalist Government to remove

the Coloured voters of the Cape

from the common electoral roll.

The recent decision of the

Appell Court judges against

the Government on this issue

means that five major Acts of

Parliament have been declared

illegal and that the Nationalist

curious political stricken,

the "High Court of Parliament"

after one brief sitting, will never

again sit again.

It also means that the Coloured voters of the Cape, after a

two-year struggle by the Gov-

ernment to disfranchise them

will after all vote at the gen-

eral election. There is no doubt

that they will vote for the op-

position United Party, that

using for the Opposition many

steps that would have

been endangering if the Coloured

voters had been put on a sepa-

rate electoral roll.

Malan's Defeat

Dr. Malan has been forced to admit defeat. In his speech of November 14 he said that the electorate would be asked to give the Government a mandate to place the "sovereignty of Parliament" beyond doubt, but he did not say what steps he would take to ensure this in a constitutional manner. Un-

til something is done to the

Coloured voters of the Cape

there is no doubt that the

United Party there is a grow-

ing section of opinion — need-

less to say, expressed privately

— that concessions must sooner

or later be made to the natives.

Whether or not they can risk such a policy as an election

early reignited native disorders. The Nationalists will go to the country with a plan for strong measures which, they will claim, only a Nationalist Government is prepared to carry out. On the other hand, the Opposition parties, which will campaign on a joint ticket, will plead that the time has come for some kind of round-table conference, with responsible leaders of African opinion:

Industrialists' Party

The United Party is largely the Industrialists' party. Indus-

try is the Opposition's chief dilemma. By its stern and vi-

cious defence of the Coloured vot-

er, whatever the reason, the

United Party has already risked much and the Nationalists have

not been slow to take advantage of it.

Coloureds Supported

Mr. J.D.N. Strauss, leader of the Opposition, made what in South Africa was an unprecedented statement last week when he said: "The Coloured people are an appendix of the European people of South Africa. They worship our God, they speak our two languages, they follow our customs. They have been associated with Europeans ever since their origin. We dare not estrange their loyalty, we do not spur their support."

The major plank in the United Party policy is a drive for a larger European population by reverting to the mass immigration plan of the late Field-Marshal Smuts. This will have widespread support from all except those dyed-in-the-wool Afrikaner Nationalists who see in immigration the end of the Afrikaner "nation" as a dominating force in White South Africa. (OPNS)

Readers' Letters

PROPOSED CAPITAL LEVY

To the Editor of THE POST

Sir, — A recent letter in your columns with reference to the proposed property tax made mention of the necessity of evaluating property equitably in order to avoid social injustice; but surely before even considering the social repercussions of the proposed tax one ought to examine the economic justification involved.

Whether property owners will choose to pay a one-time levy or contribute a series of loans, the undisputed fact remains that large sums of money will be required in order that they may acquire themselves of these obligations. But from where is this money to come?

But the Malan Government has yet to win the election and its brightest hope is a continuance of the African-Indian passive defiance campaign with him still in the same position as himself — no cash in hand and no attendant but not necessary

members.

The latter course, it will be claimed with justice, has plenty of precedents in Britain where the House of Lords has been passed on several occasions.

But the Malan Government

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DECEMBER 1
1932

THE JERUSALEM POST

ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT

DECEMBER 1
1952

THE HARD ROAD TO STABILITY

By PERETZ HAPHTALI
Minister of Agriculture

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of The Jerusalem Post, I have gladly accepted the invitation to make a few comments on the central problems of our work in the State of Israel, problems which are uppermost in the minds of us all. A cursory glance on the past 20 years is all the more indicated because they cover approximately the period of my own life in the country.

At the beginning of 1933, when large-scale immigration started after the German catastrophe, the number of Jews in Eretz-Israel was 192,137. A few years of relative prosperity were interrupted by a period of intermittent disturbances and then by the restriction of immigration and economic expansion imposed by the White Paper of 1939. In the wake of the Second World War followed the struggle with the Mandatory Government, the partition resolution of the United Nations of November 1947, and simultaneously with it the war with the Arab invaders. When the State of Israel was proclaimed, the Jewish population numbered 680,250; its number has risen to approximately 1,450,000 today.

We won the war even before we could organize the apparatus of the State. In the last few years, we have at one and the same built our State, formed its democratic institutions, and more than doubled the number of its Jewish inhabitants. Whereas the immigrants of 1933 to 1935 consisted mostly of people well-trained in various professions and possessing some capital of their own, we had to absorb an immigration of masses who were, in the great majority of cases, untrained and penniless.

No Alternative to Inflation

Like other nations in long established states, we were forced to finance our war by inflation. Moreover, during the first period of mass immigration, and despite assistance from abroad, we had to finance part of the initial cost of reception of immigrants and their first adaptation to the process of production by means of further inflation. If someone believes that this could have been avoided, he is blind to the realities of that period and the experience of other countries.

Even if we—all of us, and without difference of party—had not been beginners in the art of statecraft, the direction of economy, and the ways of public finance in the first stages of a largely improvised system of taxation; even if we had made fewer mistakes than we actually did make—and who could imagine that action in a revolutionary epoch can avoid mistakes?—even then we could not have resisted the beginnings of inflation.

True, inflation is a great evil. It leads people into believing in the genuineness of incomes which are not derived from productive work, the only source of genuine income. It favours speculation at the expense of production. It demoralizes economic, social, and political life. Nobody could be better aware of this



THE LATE PRESIDENT
"Behold, I have set the Land before you..."

Photo by Bernheim.

than the writer of these lines who has witnessed the fathomless German inflation after the First World War. Yet, in spite of it all, I must say that, during the War of Liberation and the first period of immigrants' absorption, we were confronted with the alternative to win with inflation or to perish without inflation. There was no choice, and as in other fields, the sun Shalom was the only answer.

However, even inevitable and therefore acceptable inflation has its limit. There is a point where the evil forces of inflation alone remain and its positive effects are failing. When we realized that we were nearing that point, the great struggle began which aimed at checking the inflationary pressure. The same organs of the State which had to use inflation as the only means of self-preservation now concentrated on the fight against it. To prevent it from developing into a runaway inflation has been the watchword of Government since 1951. It may be mentioned here that the late Minister of Finance, Eliyahu Kapish, has the merit to have organized the financing of the first period by means of inflation and to have been the first to lead the campaign against it before it was too late.

Difficult Decisions

The experience of many countries teaches that to stop inflation involves a painful process which affects many interests. It can only succeed if the new monetary policy is conducted with good judgment and without losing one's nerve. There is, on the one hand, the threat of failure, that is of increasing inflation, and on the other hand the menace of reversal in the form of unbridled deflation. This latter menace, accompanied as it is by disruption of the process of production, business collapse, and mass unemployment, is no less dangerous than unbridled inflation.

Characteristic as such navigation between Scylla and Charybdis always is in periods of transition, its difficulties are increased manifold in the case of Israel where the absorption of mass immigration is still in progress, and where the need for rapid development of productive forces entails constant pressure in the direction of inflation. But there

is no choice. We must go the hard way. There is no easy-going monetary policy if stabilization is to be achieved.

Monetary Measures

I am laying stress here on monetary policy because, in my opinion, it is at the present moment the

(Continued on Page Two)

List of Contributors to this Supplement

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NOTE: Contributors are responsible for facts stated and views expressed in their articles.

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STABILITY

(continued from Page One)
precondition of any form of policy aiming at expansion of the productive forces of the country and at economic independence. This monetary policy, which includes budgetary policy, credit policy, and regulation of exchange rates, is the means by which a balance between consumption and production can be obtained; it brings pressure upon everybody towards increased production and exports, and it confines consumption to that which we can afford on the basis of income earned by our own work. It makes not the slightest difference to me, whether this policy is called "planning" or not. It is in any case the precondition for carrying out any development project.

Economic policy has many objectives and forms. I confined myself to a particular problem which stands in the foreground today, because its discussion is necessary for the understanding of the present situation with its struggle against the dangers of inflation and deflation, and of manipulations which may, at times, seem to be contradictory. Without such understanding it is impossible to overcome the psychological crisis which is noticeable in many circles as a result of the unavoidable difficulties of a period of transition.

Varied Achievements

In retrospect, it can be said that we have achieved much in these few years after the War of Liberation. We have established 200 new agricultural settlements, we have increased our industry and are beginning to exploit natural resources of unexpected dimensions. On the sea and in the air we have developed new lines of communications; we have built many thousands of housing units; thousands of people have been trained for productive work; agricultural and industrial production has been raised.

All this, however, is not sufficient for the process of transforming hundred thousands of immigrants who are consumers from the day of their arrival, into producers earning their consumption by their work—a process which requires years.

We have underestimated the size of this task. That is the reason for the widespread belief that the realization of our attaining political independence and doubling the population could be smooth sailing. Some people are disappointed now that reality teaches what theory could perhaps have foreseen: that we shall have to struggle hard for the realization of our ideal of national liberty. After the veil of imitation has been torn, and economy and intensive work have become compulsory, it is all too easy to find fault with others for the inconveniences of our life.

Criticism is always useful when it helps to avoid mistakes and shows the way to better performance. But above all we must remain conscious of the greatness of our historic task, without ever concealing its objective difficulties. Then only is it possible to achieve on all fronts a maximum of national effort.

To help in the diffusion of the facts, to tell the truth, even when it hurts, to criticize without smearing—this, I think, is the greatest contribution a newspaper can make if it wishes to strengthen the moral effort required of us all.

PAGE TWO

JERUSALEM POST ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1952



YARDEN HOTEL
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TEL AVIV
TEL 3732
EVERY MODERN COMFORT

REALISTIC MEASURES TO BALANCE

By GERDA LUFT

Abraham, how we know
The more you know, the less
You care
The less you care, the more
You give
The less you need, the more
You're given
The more you earn, the less
You sleep
And now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my soul to take
To name God Conscious Name?
Not it before I wake.
(From a poem, "One From One Leaves Two," by Ogden Nash)

On February 13 last the Government introduced three dollar rates instead of the one of \$1.80 to the pound and announced a New Economic Policy. The aims were curtailment of consumption, raising of production, higher efficiency, and incidentally, retrenchment in government expenditure.

Ten months later dismantling of controls began in earnest with the abolition of clothes and shoe rationing, except for working clothes and some items in particularly short supply. As shopkeepers seemed to have turned points overnight after the abolition of point rationing, the old English war-joke was remembered: "Peace is coming, for the butcher sold good-morning!"

But is peace really coming? Or to translate this into our conditions: have we really turned the corner of the economic impasse, and are we on the way to economic recovery? The near future only can tell. The New Economic Policy has succeeded in curtailing consumption; it has until now not succeeded in curtailing government expenditure. It has certainly not succeeded in raising production, except in vegetables. And if we take as one of the important symptoms of recovery the balancing of the state budget, we cannot even state accurately how far the deficit has grown. We can only say that a genuine balancing of the budget has not been achieved.

Let us restate the economic problem of Israel economy in one sentence: we do not care what we need; and what is more, we do not care what we spend. Every economic programme must be judged according

to its ability to decrease the difference between earning and spending. Let us examine, then, how monetary policy, wage policy, controls, planning, and public administration can be fitted to this goal.

The Exchange Rates

The introduction of the three dollar rates has doubtlessly put us on the way to a more realistic monetary policy. With the old dollar-rate of \$2.80 to the pound we sheltered our economy behind an artificial wall and supplied the population with cheap goods for which they did not work. By the transfer of more and more goods to the higher exchange rates, the pound is gradually being adjusted to its international buying power, but it is doubtful whether this adjustment is thorough and fast enough. Even now we buy more with our pound than is justified by our production, which means that our prices are still subsidized in a considerable extent.

A thorough reform will be reached only when the pound buys here what it buys abroad. The quickest way to achieve this would be the abolition of currency control. This is still being resisted vehemently by the Treasury and its economic advisers. Their main argument is that the abolition of currency control would open the doors to the transfer of capital abroad. It is doubtful if this apprehension is well founded. First of all, there existed and still exists a considerable flight of capital even under the present restrictions and despite the careful watch of the authorities. This is one of the reasons for the low value of the pound abroad, for those who transfer money despite controls are prepared to pay the price for the risk of detection. Once the controls are lifted, this risk would disappear and it may well be that the value of the pound abroad would then even rise. What is more, it must be doubted whether any large amounts of ready money are available for transfer, and in the present position it will be not too easy to turn assets into cash.

The abolition of currency control would, moreover, open new possibilities for capital transfer from abroad. It can no longer be denied today that the investment law as it stands has not borne the fruits we hoped for. The stream of capital has remained thin, and one of the reasons is the fear of the investor that he will be unable to transfer his money, apart from his dear of red tape.

Attracting Capital

The view is sometimes expressed that we are not at all interested in foreign investment, and that we should try and develop our economy with our own resources and with the help of drives and grants-in-aid. But then we should make up our minds on this point and draw the consequences. As things stand today, we profess our wish to attract capital, but methods of implementation are not always appropriate. This is one of the major paradoxes of our thinking and acting in the economic field which hampers recovery.

In this context, the abolition of point-rationing for industrial goods must have further consequences. If we want to prevent more and more deadlocks in industrial production, we must enable the entrepreneurs to get their raw material abroad. Otherwise production is bound to fall and unemployment will rise at a quicker rate than it has during the last six months.

The impact of unemployment and of the slowing down of production through lack of raw materials and power-cuts has been cushioned until now by the residue of the artificial boom which the country experienced during the last few years. If serious social and economic consequences are to be avoided, it might be sounder policy to put the whole responsibility for the running of their enterprises on the shoulders of the industrialists before it is too late.

Budget and Publicity

The balancing of the Budget has been rightly stated to be one of the main aims of economic recovery. The greatest endeavour of the In-

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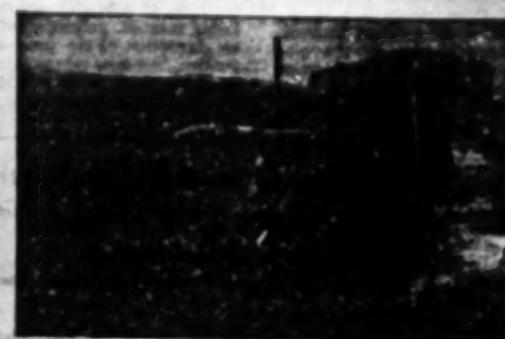
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THE NATIONAL BUDGET

individual citizen will not help if the state consumes a large part of the national income without giving adequate equivalents in the form of far-flung development or services.

We cannot even assess today exactly how the budget is balanced at a given moment. Things would be easier if the Treasury would publish a fortnightly round of government income and expenditure. Then the public could know the trend of budgetary development. We would know how much money is spent and on what. Today the different budgets of the government, the revenue from excise, customs, luxury tax, counterpart funds, and reserves render the overall picture of government income and expenditure indistinct and blurred. All we know is that the government is hard put to meet its obligations; that the pruning of the administration has been so imperfect that the new Labor Committee had to begin again at the beginning. We know, too, that the administrative machine has remained top-heavy, inefficient and expensive. Some improvement may be expected from decontrol; but elimination of obstruction is only the first step. Positive administrative action must follow.

Wages and Production

One of the main reasons for the lack of success in balancing the government-budget must be sought in the wage level. By linking wages to the cost-of-living index the expenses of government are inflated by the rise of prices in the same manner as in private enterprises. Under these circumstances it is impossible to budget accurately even for a limited time.

The pressure of Labour has until now prevented an effective revision of a wages policy which is in conflict with economic considerations because wages are still only partly linked to output. Higher grades are not attractive enough to warrant greater exertions, and despite recent changes the system of taxes has remained unsatisfactory.

The same policy which results in the salary of a judge being lower than that of a bus-driver, and which keeps down economic performance, has also prevented the M.E.P. from influencing the redistribution of workers among essential and unessential jobs. While unemployment exists heavy pressure on the labour exchanges in the towns, the agricultural economy are still short of hands. At the same time, settlers complain that the low output of the labour makes it difficult to enlarge production.

Here, one of the main points of the system. The wage scale must



"You're such an extremist! You see things only in terms of black and white!"

be revised according to principles which will increase production. There should be, for instance, a much wider margin between the lower and higher brackets in order to induce workers to better performance; the linking of wages with the cost-of-living index, and taxation should be revised. More important still, we need a system which promotes the transfer of large numbers of people into agriculture.

All this cannot be made against

the will of the Histadrut. On the contrary, the Histadrut will have to save the day by making "self the spearhead of these reforms. Only this can assure us of their success and prevent major social upheavals which threaten in the prevailing social atmosphere.

Planning and Controls

Let us assume for a moment that controls are abolished tomorrow, and that the forces of supply and demand are left to find their own level. It is thought by many that such a policy would free us from the need for planning, and that the mysterious forces of economic push-and-pull would do the work now entrusted to experts.

It must be stated clearly that this is not true. With income from grants-in-aid and drives as high as they are, with the need to continue the settlement of tens of thousands of people, with the necessity to develop certain raw-materials which will not be worked by private capital only, with the need to create the conditions of modern production, the activity of the government and of government-influenced companies will still be enormous in the economic field.

This activity would be haphazard and prone to break-down if a certain degree of planning is not maintained. Bitter experience has taught us that we cannot transfer large numbers of people into a town and then leave the supply of electric current to look after itself; that we cannot have new settlements and nurseries all over the country without assuring a proper water-supply, communications, and employment. We have learned that mineral resources can only be exploited if the region where they are found is opened up by communications.

It is perhaps not the duty of government to plan for everybody's underwear; but it is its duty to plan the overall supply of water, electricity, and transport. That does not mean that the government has to undertake the supply of these basic commodities all by itself. But we must make up our minds about priorities in the allocation of funds, of labour, of raw materials. It is perhaps not too much to hope that

the present beginnings of decontrol will open the way for proper planning.

Back to the Land

Under certain circumstances we could imagine an Israeli economy without a modern industry; but we are unable to imagine this country without a well developed agriculture, the backbone of our economy.

The back-to-the-land movement is therefore a step in the right direction and of considerable importance. But we are far from the solution of our agricultural problems. If we do not succeed in transforming a considerable part of our manpower into farmers, the earlier settlers have blazed a trail, but mass-immigration did not and perhaps could not follow it. The moshav movement hopes that it will fit itself to the needs of the new settlers. But there is also the need for adaptation of the kibbutz to a new social climate for new experiments with private farming.

The problem is unique, because for the first time a country has to be settled by people who had nothing to do with agriculture. However, a genuine discussion of this vital issue has scarcely started. The old methods of prolonged training and ideological discussions are no longer adequate in our present plight and with masses who have to learn everything from the start.

Conclusion

Abolition of controls removes some of the obstacles on the way to economic recovery. But decontrol in itself does not produce one more pair of shoes nor does it add one cent to the national output.

We shall have to arrive at a genuine balancing of the state-budget, at a new wages policy which is adapted to the needs of increased output, at long term planning for the creation of conditions of increased output, and at an agricultural policy which will multiply the number of farmers.

There is not too much time for the preparation of such major reforms. Rising unemployment, breakdown of major services, the desperate money-plight of the younger settlements, and the scarcity of raw materials provide warning signals which cannot be ignored.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1958

BOND ISSUE SPURS DEVELOPMENT

By JOSEPH SUGARMAN

On December 14, the second day of Hanukkah, thousands of volunteer "Israel Bond Salesmen" throughout the United States will carry out a house-to-house campaign. This one-day sales operation known as BIG Day is the second of its kind since the \$200,000,000 State of Israel Bond Issue was launched in May 1951. Through such means as BIG Day, some 400,000 Americans have already become Bond holders, and at a Bond Conference last September it was decided that this number should be increased to one million within the next year. These figures leave no doubt that Israel Bonds are reaching masses of people.

Those who have had any contact with the progress of the Bond Issue in America know that the mass investment approach is revolutionizing the attitude of literally millions of Americans toward this country. Israel has been transformed in their eyes from a refugee centre to a focus of pioneer economic activity. Deep interest has been aroused in the important new mineral discoveries, in the rapid strides of irrigation, and in the productive capacity of industry — in short, in the great leap from a backward provincial economy to national self-sufficiency.

Foreign Currency

The Bond Issue was designed to spur and cushion this leap to economic independence. Thus far approximately \$150m. have been pledged, of which about \$100m. have already been subscribed. From time to time, the Israel Government has been enabled to float substantial loans on the strength of outstanding pledges. Taking this into account, Bonds, during their first year, formed the largest single source of foreign currency income to Israel.

The underlying purpose of the Bond Issue is the development of the basic resources of the country — mineral, agricultural, and industrial. It is thus intimately bound up with the national development programme, and its proceeds are channelled largely through the Development Budget. Only a small part of Bond receipts is disbursed directly by the Treasury. During the fiscal year 1951/52 Bonds provided 26 per cent of the Development Budget funds. Up to June 30, 1952, a total of IL 21.8m. of Bond proceeds was invested in all major branches of our economy, and IL 4m. have been included for disbursement within the framework of the 1952/53 Development Budget.

It can be said that every economic undertaking of primary importance has received a smaller or larger — and sometimes decisive — sum of Bond capital. This fact is not generally known because the technique of allocation is such that the largest part of Bond proceeds have lost their identity by the time they reach the individual enterprise.

Not all of that revenue has been directly invested in dollars. Its counterpart funds have been included in the Development Budget — last year as well as this year — and appropriations are consequently made in Israeli pounds. Indirectly, however,

the entire Israel economy profits from Bond dollars, and individual beneficiaries may receive allocations of foreign currency to the extent that circumstances warrant.

Economic Sectors Benefit

In strict accordance with the declared purpose of the Bond Issue, its entire revenue is applied with one end in view — to make the country independent of foreign assistance within the shortest possible time. Appropriations are governed by a number of economic criteria, notably their effect on Israel's foreign trade balance. Forms of ownership are no consideration. Of the above IL 21.8m. already disbursed, the various economic sectors received the following shares:

	Percentage
Public and semi-public bodies	39
Agricultural Settlement	29
Private Sector	22
Cooperative Sector	10
Total	100

The special function of Bond money naturally is to develop such branches of economy which, in the prevailing circumstances, or by the nature of things, do not lend themselves to private investment. Characteristic examples of this are irrigation schemes and farming generally, the construction of ports and railways, the improvement of postal services and telecommunications, and road building as well as the housing of immigrants. At the same time, Bonds have a decisive role to play in the exploitation of the country's natural resources, notably the Negev mines and the Dead Sea, and in the promotion of such basic industries as fertilizers and chemicals.

Industrial Appropriations

In the industrial field substantial loans have been made, or are to be made, to such enterprises as the Palestine Electric Corporation, the Israel Mining Corporation, the Dead Sea Works, Fertilizers and Chemicals, Haifa, the Sephen masonry factory at Afikim, and the Kharza ceramic works at Beersheba. Smaller sums have been put at the disposal of scores of medium and small-sized industries, including Asias Alcohol, Samson (Ramat Gan), Supra Paper (Lydda), Elco Metal Works, the Tahana flour mill in Jerusalem, the Pishon flax processing plant at Beer Tuvia, Palceramic, Naaman Clay Brick Works and many others. In addition, industrial development is stimulated indirectly through appropriations for the development of industrial areas by local authorities throughout the country.

In agriculture very large sums have been appropriated for irrigation projects, soil conservation, the establishment of new agricultural settlements through the Jewish Agency, the development of the Araba, cattle and sheep breeding, citrusfruits, tobacco cultivation, seed growing and the promotion of deep sea fishing.

Perhaps even more outstanding is the contribution of Bond money to communications. The new Tel Aviv-

Hadera railway line, the Beersheba line to be started soon, the Kiryat project, the construction of a modern aviation repair base, the expansion of our telephone system which is now in full swing, are all being largely financed with Bond proceeds. Similarly, it would be difficult to find a new hotel that has not received a mortgage out of Israel Bond funds; and practically every housing society has been at some time or other aided by mortgages derived ultimately from Bond income.

Bonds and Budget

The IL 4m. Bond appropriations of the 1952/53 Development Budget makes up over 25 per cent of the total IL 11.8m., and they are certainly among the more assured sources of revenue. Their main uses may be summed up as follows:

	Million IL Percent
Industry and Power	16.25 40.5
Agriculture	14.00 37.0
Communications	3.00 15.0
Housing	2.00 5.0
Tourism	1.00 2.3
Total	40.00 100.0

A large proportion of those funds are obviously spent by Government departments directly. The balance is loaned through such credit institutions as the Ossar Latascha, Discount Bank, Workers' Bank, and General Mortgage Bank, which also contribute funds of their own. It is for this reason that individual recipients of loans are not always aware of the ultimate source of the capital placed at their disposal. To them credits obtained are normal financial transactions, involving repayment and interest charges at the prevailing rates.

This is how it should be. Bond funds are loans to be repaid in due course, and must therefore be invested in strictly economic fashion. What is important is that they should serve as a lever for additional private investments in basic as well as secondary industries. In the last analysis, they are today perhaps the largest single factor in making the Yishuv "independence-minded."

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OUTLINE OF A NATIONAL PLAN FOR ISRAEL

THE physical planning of a country must be based on economic, social, and defence considerations. A condition sine qua non of its success will be the organization, co-ordination, and synthesis of these factors within a planning frame that is followed by development proper. The physical characteristics of the land, i.e., its vegetation, climate, soil, water resources, and mineral deposits, constitute a basis for the National Plan, which aims effectively to serve the interests of the individual and the community.

The objectives of a national plan include: siting of agricultural settlements and location of agricultural areas; determination of a rational and sound distribution of urban centres; effective disposition of industry in the various regions of the country; indication of the road network and centres of communication, and provision of forests and national parks.

Three factors impose a unique character of planning in Israel. They are: land, people, time.

Israel, a bridge between three continents, is bordered by the Mediterranean on the west, Lake Tiberias on the east, the Dead Sea on the south, and the Mountains of Lebanon to the north, and the Sinai Peninsula,

the Gulf of Elath and the Arabian Desert to the south. Its limited area of 20,800,000 dunams includes regions varying widely in their natural characteristics.

They range from the level and fertile coastal plains of the Shfela and the Sharon to the at present desolate Hills of Galilee in the north, and the Judaean Hills near Jerusalem; from the wastes of the Southern Negev, rich in mineral deposits; to the sloping plain of the Jordan Valley; from Lake Tiberias 200 metres below sea-level to the Dead Sea 400 metres below sea-level, and the deepest depression on the surface of the earth. Climate may also vary from region to region within distances of a few kilometres. From the mild Mediterranean climate of the Coastal Plain or the dry, cool climate of the Hills of Galilee and Judea, to the sub-tropical

climate of the Jordan Valley, to the aridity of Elath and the Red Sea. The variations in climate are accompanied by changes in the properties of the soil. The vegetal and topographical conditions produce a rich and colourful mosaic offering ample planning opportunities.

The second factor involves the social structure, character and composition of the population in this country. The Jewish population of Israel, numbering 655,000 before the establishment of the State,

had succeeded in integrating, achieving a measure of homogeneity in the course of a single generation, although it stemmed from widely varying cultural and social groups. With the completion of the first three years of the State, the number of inhabitants has been doubled. These new residents, and all those who will eventually join them, offer exceedingly diverse cultural and vital patterns.

This ingathering of Jewries will consolidate and achieve unity only if afforded a background of physical, social and economic conditions that are both adequate and encouraging. It is therefore essential that this second, social factor, should play a basic part in our planning policy. With the founding of new, the enlargement of existing settlements, with the establishment of new towns, and an objective of balanced distribution of the population, attention must be paid to social composition; and a planning framework prepared that will promote the assimilation of the diverse groups of the population, old and new, and expedite their integration into one organic and productive entity.

The third factor, that of time, makes it urgently necessary for the State to treble its population within a few years. This urgency, translated into concrete fact, means the trebling of agricultural and urban settlements, the erection of sufficient dwellings, schools, public buildings,

industrial structures, as well as the expansion of communications.

The quickened tempo of development, and the resultant pressure, continue to exert a great and sometimes negative influence on planning proper. Planning is by its very nature a slow process, demanding the basic survey of economic causes and careful research into physical and social conditions as a pre-requisite condition. Yet the introduction of the time element, i.e., the need to ensure that immediate requirements be satisfied first, is in itself detrimental to the quality of planning. Immigrant and transit

camps, housing estates and settlements, all planned and built in haste will remain as social and economic blots on the landscape and may be succeeded by even worse blight.

Later on, since the primary task of planning is to shape the future pattern of the land, its settlements, towns, and country-wide services, the time factor calling for compromise may prove to be detrimental to planning and country alike.

When the State was founded the overwhelming majority of the population, totalling 82 per cent, was concentrated in a narrow coastal strip extending from Haifa to Tel Aviv. Jerusalem contained 11 per cent, and only an insignificant part, seven per cent, lived in Galilee and in the south of the country.

Following the establishment of the State and the extension of its sovereignty to the whole present area of the country, there arose the problem of the development of abandoned regions, and the direction of population thither. The rural population is distributed naturally throughout the country; its density determined by the qualities of the soil and the quantities of water available for irrigation. The urban population, however, is expected to constitute almost 80 per cent of the total population and its distribution depends to a great extent on planning policy. The latter should be the means of

guiding it in the direction suitable from the national and economic standpoint, and may determine its character.

When considering urbanization, we distinguish between large urban concentrations of 100,000 inhabitants and over, and those of lesser size. The large towns of the world are sustained by special economic, industrial and commercial conditions, such as mineral deposits, harbours, and transport functions. Medium-sized and small towns are natural centres for their agricultural environs, and offer central market-town facilities to their regions. Such towns are now beginning to attract those types of industry which endeavour to escape from the congestion of large cities. The ratio between large and medium-sized towns varies according to the structure and character of the different states. In rich overseas colonial countries (e.g., Australia and South America) two thirds of the urban population is concentrated in the big port towns and live at the expense of the vast hinterlands, rich in soil and mineral deposits. In small Central and West European countries, which are economically, physically and sociologically similar to Israel, the urban population is well balanced and distributed, and a large proportion of them (85 per cent—75 per cent) can be found in medium-sized and small towns.

It is worth noting that under the Mandate the character of settlement in this country, excluding the organized agricultural communities, resembled that of colonial territories. The Jewish urban population was concentrated in the three large cities (82 per cent of the total). No more than 18 per cent lived in the small towns, and of them two thirds lived in such satellites of Tel Aviv as Rehovot, Rishon LeZion, Petah Tikva, Herzelia and Kfar Saba. Greater Tel Aviv comprised more than 48 per cent of the Jewish population at that time, thus creating a world record. Vienna numbered 33 per cent of the population of Austria, and Greater London 22 per cent of the population of England. It is

(Continued on Page 57)

People

Excerpts from "Physical Planning in Israel" by Arieh Sharon, which is reviewed on the following page.

Land

Time

The third factor, that of time, makes it urgently necessary for the State to treble its population within a few years. This urgency, translated into concrete fact, means the trebling of agricultural and urban settlements, the erection of sufficient dwellings, schools, public buildings,

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National Plan

(Continued from Page Five)

of interest that during the great economic crisis which Germany and America experienced in the Twenties, the large cities and the purely agricultural areas were the victims, whereas the small and medium towns with their relatively well-balanced economy stood firm. Many examples can be cited of other evils that have grown into malignant diseases gnawing at the giant bodies of the world's largest cities. The first symptoms of these diseases, i.e. costly services, disrupted communications, high cost of living and over-crowding in home and street, all reducing the standard of public health and hygiene, are already apparent in the large towns of Israel.

It must, with its mass immigration, be granted, without doubt, that the "distribution of population" does not involve a transfer of the existing population, resulting in economic and social loss, as it would in other countries. The diversion of investment and over-expansion of immigration to underdeveloped agricultural areas, and to new urban centres, is a relatively simple task.

With the purpose of getting this development, and of the population have been planned. A division of the country into planning regions has been prepared, as a preliminary measure for accomplishing this distribution.

Each planning region is a distinct geographical entity delineated by physical and topographical factors, such as water-catchment areas or river basins; due consideration being given to present urban and rural concentrations, land-ownership and existing services. Twenty-four of these planning regions, each to contain between 75,000-125,000 inhabitants, have been provided for in the initial stage of the country's development, not including the principal large towns. It should be possible to reduce this number to 20 by uniting neighbouring regions. One or two urban centres have been assigned to each region, to serve the rural hinterland as foci of trade, industry, social and educational activity, and seats of administration. The regions mapped out as geographical and economic units may be expected to evolve into complete and well-balanced social and economic entities, deriving benefits from the mutual relations between the urban centres and their hinterland.

BY RICHARD KAUFFMANN
TEKUMIM PRESS BE-ISRAEL (Physical Planning in Israel). By Arich Kauffmann, Government Printer, Jerusalem. 19 pages, 100s. 10s. of photos. It contains a detailed Index Summary. (L.T. 1952).

FOR Sale Hashabot 5713 the Government of Israel presented us with a comprehensive survey of the plan for the physical development of the country, as designed by Mr. Arich Kauffmann and his many collaborators. With its numerous colour plates and photos of villages, settlements, towns and typical landscapes, the volume is admirably well produced by the Government Printing Press and Survey of Israel Press; an English summary of the Hebrew text does credit to the Kfar Moshav Printing Press, and the whole is a fine example of local craftsmanship.

Above all, this volume gives an insight into the magnitude of the task whose significance for the overall physical shaping of the whole country cannot be overestimated.

A first glance shows that good work has already been done with much fervour, and the general outline of some of the towns and especially the lay-out of some of the neighbourhood units reveals a satisfactory general trend. On further examination, however, a number of questions arise. A few only of these questions, selected at random, can be discussed here.

The National Master-Plan

Where is the general utilization plan of the country? Any national master-plan must obviously be based on such a plan, which is itself designed on the basis of a national map showing the quality of soil, arid areas, water and natural resources, historical sites, beauty spots, etc. This principle has been generally accepted since Dr. Dudley Stamp, the English pioneer in this field, insisted on it in his works. It must be asked whether a plan of this kind has been prepared for the whole of the country as the indispensable basis of the master-plan.

Between pages 26 and 27 a large folding plan is reproduced, called the national master-plan. This plan itself, as well as the various town-planning schemes, are based, in general, on recent planning methods adopted in Europe and the United States. A national master-plan

FACTORS IN OFFICIAL TOWN AND

should form the basis of the entire physical planning of the country. By properly incorporating and correlating the various essential components of physical development, existing as well as proposed, such as communications, urban and rural areas, afforestation, parks and green belts, etc., it should fulfil its function as the key to the whole development, and not least to all regional and detailed planning.

One of the most important components is a national irrigation scheme. This scheme is not found in the master-plan although it should be one of the main attributes of the plan decisively influencing its preparation through proper correlation of the irrigation system with the system of communications, mining, etc.

National parks and afforestation areas should form an organic entity, allowing for interconnection of larger regions and afforestation areas by a network of green belts. Instead of providing for a continuous and uninterrupted green system, parks and green belts are scattered over the whole land without organic connections which would enable youth groups, hikers and tourists to move from reservation to reservation by foot.

This approach is all the more regrettable because the country offers unique opportunities for appropriate planning. Nature herself has connected the hill areas of the east and north by means of wadis, gorges and rivulets to the coastal belt with its ranges of low "karkar" (sandstone) hills and sand dunes. Here is the natural key for a proper arrangement of a national green system.

At the suggestion of the present writer, even the Mandatory Town Planning authorities had long ago made legal provisions for a rudimentary coastal green belt. It would be a pity if our authorities, instead of enlarging it, allowed it to be dropped altogether.

Safeguards for Precious Soil
Our land is relatively poor in good agricultural soil. Only approximately 1,500,000 dunam of a total area of 20,000,000 dunam or approximately one third may be considered as agricultural soil suitable for cultivation. The intention of redeeming large areas of wasteland and neg-

lected soil has already resulted in considerable outlay and human effort. Accordingly, one of the most important guiding principles in determining the location of new towns and settlements must obviously be that not a single dunam of good soil shall be used for other than agricultural purposes, unless absolutely necessary. Here again a proper land utilisation map should guide our efforts.

In fact, however, new towns and settlements have been constructed in the plains on first-class agricultural soil instead of putting them in nearly arid areas. This would not be detrimental to their general location, but would save hundreds of thousands of dunams of good soil for agricultural use. In travelling through Israel today one cannot help noticing with regret how new town enlargements and housing schemes are springing up on excellent soil, whereas sand dunes or stony areas in the vicinity are lying idle, as, for instance, in Rishon Le-Zion and Haifa. It may be mentioned in passing that building on sandy or stony ground is much healthier and cheaper than on deep or heavy soil.

The Haifa Region

Space permits only one or two more observations. It is to be regretted that a proper master-plan for Haifa and its region is lacking. As this is unfortunately the case, new developments for the harbour in the Kishon estuary have recently overtaken the second development of what is perhaps our most important town to the decisive detriment of all factors involved, foremost among them the harbour and the town Haifa.

This omission is all the more surprising because Mr. Shemesh himself describes the future Haifa as a "centre of international trade and industry" which "may in future play an important part in international communications." In the light of these statements, which can be wholeheartedly endorsed, the plan shown on page 26 does not seem to meet the case, either in the arrangement of the harbour and the adjoining areas, or in other features, as for instance the international railway communications which cut through the whole area of town and



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COUNTRY PLANNING

Harbour instead of being led around in a south and easterly direction as a bypass railway, tunnelling Mount Carmel.

For further study of this important issue, the reviewer must refer to his article, "The First Planning of the Haifa Area Project in 1922-3" and the "Program of Today" put by Mandelstam, Tel Aviv.

Tel Aviv's Railway

A similar drawback is revealed in the proposed new South-North railway line which cuts right through the whole length of Tel Aviv, splitting the town into two parts. It runs along the Wadi Miqraya, where a narrow green belt has been preserved along the wadi bed, the only green and recreation area in the heart of the town worth mentioning the purpose of which will certainly be defeated when the main railway passes through its whole length.

Moreover, it does not seem reasonable for a railroad to be built precisely along this lowest part of the town, where a constant danger of flooding exists even if costly drainage work were undertaken.

The right location of the main railway-line would again be a bypass in the East, with only feeder branches for local use.

In the Master-Plan for Jerusalem, a suitable alternate site for the Hebrew University and Hadassah, omitted in the plan, would have been of decisive importance.

Rural Planning

Several examples of rural planning are reproduced in the book, in air-photos as well as in typical plans. Much planning work has been done in this field in the land of Israel, where systematic planning of agricultural settlements was undertaken for the first time more than thirty years ago and has become an internationally acknowledged model.

The reader will be under the impression that this planning too was the work of the Government Planning Department. By accepted standards of international usage it would have been incorrect upon the author not merely to cite the photographers, but in the first place the names of the authors of these plans, for instance:

Kibbutz Ein-Hanotot (page 20) by the late Norman Landwein; Moshav Ovdim Nahalot (page 20), Moshav Shitufi Hilsia (page 21), Kibbutz Ahd Ha-Arad and Tel-Joseph (page 22) by Richard Kauffmann. On plate XVII there is an air photo of Harechet Ha-Goyim which was designed by Professor Alex Klein.

Wanted: A Town and Country Planning Act

Even the most careful planning is doomed to failure if adequate legislation is lacking. Such legislation should at least accompany the planning activities, but it would be even preferable had it been enacted beforehand. If no such legislation is mentioned in the book, it is for the good reason that there is no proper law in existence. More than anyone else, the Government's Planning Department itself must be aware of all the handicaps and drawbacks re-

sulting from this deficiency, but the public, too, suffers from the resulting stagnation in development.

One of the first acts of the Mandatory Government was a Town Planning Ordinance, promulgated as long ago as in 1921. Based on the then prevailing policy and on piecemeal-planning, this Ordinance was revised several times. Yet, together with some others of the Mandatory period, it has remained the legal basis of all planning. In several other countries legislation was already enacted before the first World War, and in England the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 provided the necessary instrument for modern development. Here unfortunately, we still labour under an obsolete legislation which was never meant for regional, much less for national country planning.

Status of Planning Department

Another question bearing on the success of planning is the status of the Planning Authority itself. This Department has already been transferred three times. Originally attached to the office of the Prime Minister, it was subsequently shifted to the Ministry of Labour, and indeed recently to the Ministry of the Interior. In addition, Planning Departments exist in other Ministries, as for instance, in the Ministries of Communications and of Commerce and Industry.

It is perhaps no wonder that, as experience has shown, the planning authorities are not endowed in their present set-up with sufficient powers, nor are they adequately represented in the Cabinet, the Knesset, and in Public Relations. In view of the vital importance of the task for the whole future of the country, a separate Ministry of Town and Country Planning would seem to offer the only effective solution. Even in Britain, where large-scale planning is, so far, confined to regional schemes, a special Ministry of Town and Country Planning was established long ago.

Collaboration and Coordination

"Effective planning calls for collaboration and coordination," with this appropriate statement the book is introduced to the reader; but when it goes on to say that "during the past two years the activities of the Planning Department have been based on such collaboration," one feels inclined to voice serious doubt, not about the collaboration within the department itself, on which the outsider has no information, but in a much wider sense.

It is, or should be, imperative that with this unique opportunity of shaping the physical outlay and appearance of the country, all those who are qualified to make useful contributions should be given the opportunity for collaboration. This has unfortunately not been done. On the contrary, local specialists with many years of professional experience in the field of planning, abroad as well as here, have neither been consulted nor otherwise encouraged to collaborate.

Waiting from this deficiency, but the public, too, suffers from the resulting stagnation in development.



Bird's eye view of new suburbs. In the foreground is Suf Tum, near Tel Aviv, and in the distance, Haifa.

Photo by Schindler

consider both the organization and the proposals of the planning authorities. Unless this is done, we shall have to admit that there is a good deal of truth in the apprehension of a foreign expert who, after his departure from Israel, wrote to the present reviewer:

When the responsible authorities are anxious to spend money in a wrong way, and when they fear criticism of their directions, I can't help it. Here (i.e. in the writer's country) you are obliged to submit your opinions to the highest authority and criticism is appreciated. I consider this the right attitude to make things better. But in Israel it is just the contrary; when you don't say: "perfect," people are disappointed. The loss of the critical mind is the end of everything...

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PAGE EIGHTY

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AGRICULTURE'S RELATION TO CURRENT NEEDS

By E. L. SAMUEL.

TIME and again public criticism has been directed against our agriculture, notably as a result of the necessity to allocate not less than \$60m. for current needs of food and feeding stuffs to be brought into the country. The public at large and even economists and Government officials have been unable to get a clear and unbiased picture of what is really being done in our agriculture and why, in spite of rather impressive figures on development, the dependence on imports is still very large and requires no less than 20 per cent of all our foreign currency income.

The largest items in food imports are wheat or wheat flour for bread, oil-seeds for the manufacturing of margarine and cooking fats, sugar both for direct consumption and industrial purposes, milk and egg-powder, various kinds of fish, and feeding stuffs. Local production of wheat and oil-seeds is negligible if compared with requirements, sugar is not yet produced and fish production is limited largely to ponds, requiring concentrates. With regard to milk, eggs and feeding stuffs, local production is substantial but must still be complemented by imports.

Before explaining these shortages and indicating the way to reduce them, we must quote a few data on the development of diversified farming (citriculture will not be discussed here as being of an essentially different character).

Development: 1947-52

Between 1947 and 1952, the total cultivated area in intensive farming (citrus excluded) increased from 600,000 to over three million dunams, but it is essential to bear in mind that the output of food for direct human consumption increased only 2.5 times. This difference results from the use of vast areas for the production of feeding stuffs only, supporting dairy farming almost in full and poultry farming at a level of perhaps 70 per cent as against an overall share of one third up to 1947. What has been the reason for using the larger part of land for fodder production? What food is produced to say farms for urban consumption?

In the main, our intensive farms produce milk, eggs and poultry meat, vegetables, including potatoes, and a variety of fruits, apart from citrus. Output for the market of all other foodstuffs is very small and far below 10 per cent of requirements. In 1951/52, the urban population received approximately per person:

70 to 75 kgms milk
200 to 240 kgms (candy) sugar
20 to 25 kgms vegetables
20 to 25 kgms flour
20 to 25 kgms of flour (including bread)

This output must be complemented by substantial quantities from abroad in order to guarantee a minimum supply of animal protein and carbohydrates (potatoes); fruit and dried vegetables are also imported, although short in certain seasons. There must be a large import of skimmed milk powder, local supplies being too low to permit cheese manufacturing and even, apart from the peak-season, to supply fluid milk in full. There must be an import of egg-powder in the lean season; local potatoes are not

available in the autumn and very short during the whole winter season. The very high prices of fruit during the late summer and autumn also indicate a serious shortage.

The concentration of our farm output on the few above quoted foodstuffs reflects our farm structure, as developed between the middle twenties and 1947, a structure still predominant although some major changes have taken place. These changes do, however, not affect the output for the market in such a way as to increase the share of local products in total food requirements.

The changes are threefold: the first is that, compared with the earlier period, intensive farming now provides largely its own fodder basis. This has reduced foreign currency expense on feeding stuffs, but does not increase the share of local products in food supplies; secondly, poultry farming has developed much quicker than dairy farming, so that relatively less milk is produced and more eggs; thirdly, the share of sales from total production has declined so that the urban population receives less per capita than in the period ending December 1947.

The question arises immediately why we have adhered until now to this structure of farming, although



New settlements, new flocks. Selection and allocation of land for farming and pasture is the first step in determining the future of agriculture.

Photo by Braun

the earlier shortage of land has subsided and general conditions of markets and supplies have changed completely.

New Farming

In the first place it should be realized that the design of new farm types is a difficult job and requires several years, even if a clear conception has been formed of the targets to be achieved by this design. It took roughly a decade to develop the earlier, most intensive, farm types and an effort of lasting importance was made in this direction by the Director and the staff of the Agricultural Research Institute at Rehovot, culminating in the theory of an "organic" farm, as conceived by Professor Eliezer Vaisse, who also created a model farm along these lines on the Rehovot site.

Secondly, the creation of new farm types has been delayed because in the mind of all our colonization agencies the ideal of a type suitable for our needs is indeed still the former one, that is, a small, fully irrigated farm, with dairy farming as backbone, a scientific crop rotation which may include some products scarcely produced in earlier times, and otherwise concentrating on green fodder, vegetables and certain fruits. As a matter of fact, part of the irrigated area has been used for peanut production, and another will soon be devoted to sugar-beet cultivation.

However, even if in the long run the fully irrigated small farm may be ideal for our conditions in all districts where water is found in relatively large quantities, it should be realized, firstly, that it is not assumed that water will be available for all our cultivable land, (five million dunams, if not more), and secondly, that even the irrigation of an additional million dunams land—now roughly 400,000 dunams only are irrigated—will probably take anything from six years and to ten years.

In the meantime, farm types will have to be designed in such a way as to get an optimum production also from unirrigated soils. This will not be possible without the design of new "organic" farms, where part or all of the area is unirrigated.

A further factor is causing delay. It is the fact that a large share of our cultivated area is not yet permanent property of settlements, but only leased to them for a short period, pending definite decision on allocation to new settlements or to other younger settlements without adequate land resources. In this field, decisions depend on colonization policy and involve far-reaching

(Continued on Page 233)

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Agriculture

(Continued from Page 5)
issues. It may be that interim arrangements must be made for a four or five-year period in all districts where apparently a permanent distribution of land must be postponed for a number of years.

Changes in Policy

In connection with decisions in this field, a new approach to irrigation policy might prove necessary, concerning a two-fold group of questions. The one question is, whether it is possible, financially and otherwise to accelerate irrigation schemes in the northern district of the country, where increase in production would be substantial within a short time, without affecting irrigation schemes in the Negev, where an optimum production cannot be expected during the next few years.

The second question would be, whether it is possible to have a substantial part of cereal production irrigated, at least in an auxiliary way. This last method would completely change the prospects of a substantial wheat growing, in addition to that of fodder-cereal cultivation needed for our livestock production. As far as "flooding" instead of pipe-irrigation could be used in cereal growing, expense in foreign currency would be much smaller. A change in technique requires, however, a basically new approach on the part of our farmers.

We have already said that the output of food for direct human consumption has increased by 2.5 times, as against a five-fold increase in area. Intensive dairy and poultry farming, cut off since 1948 from all fodder supplies from extensive farms in the Middle East, were nevertheless expanded to a large degree, and had to be provided with their own fodder-basis. Moreover, this local production of fodder-cereals and hay has proved to be the easiest and quickest way of utilizing several millions of dunams of unirrigated land.

In the past, it was scarcely possible to adopt another approach to farm production, the more so because in 1947 and 1950, and perhaps still in 1951, it was difficult to realize clearly that the concentration of our farming on livestock production had to give way, at least for a number of years, to a more diversified kind of farming, where bread-cereal and oil-seed production as well as sugar-beet growing must find their proper place. So far, the Ministry of Agriculture has made strong efforts in the direction of peanut and sugar-beet production, although quantities large enough for processing have not yet been obtained.

Very recently, increased wheat production has also been encouraged, but a definite policy, excluding competition between poultry farming, based on barley, and wheat production has not yet been devised.

Prices and Credits

The last, but very important, preliminary condition to direct production into the desired pattern would be the adoption of a price and credit policy in support of the targets upon which a decision has been reached. We are still remote from an overall policy in this field.

It is undesirable that the principles involved in this issue constitute an extremely difficult problem in a period of shortage of food. This problem can find a solution only on the basis of special research, which would have to show

A Country

By YEHUDA KAHNI

A country is not a little piece
of property
Like an orchard
Where wickedness and tyranny
may reign;

A country is the form,
In the frame;

For a man's attachment to earth,

To all God's creatures,

Worm, great earth.

A country is a home of
Integrity and evil,

Of violence;

It is given to man as a lot

To inherit,

Wherein to live and wherein

To die —

With love, charity and mercy

For every thing alive,

And all that was created

As his heritage

From the day of beginnings

Till the end,

A country is the guide
To the garden of creation,

To draw from the open springs

And the sealed,

Of salvation and sorrow;

A country is a rung

Up the ladder of the primal dead,

Wherein we ascend to the

Thousands countries

Of a universe of being and not.

Bless me, Lord, with a country

On the face of the earth,

A country encouraging

And encouraging

By good, warm love.

From "Ha'ir Vida"

Translated by Dr. Ya'acov

the relation of prices between various foodstuffs in an "organic" farm, where such a relation has become fairly permanent. Research on this subject has scarcely been initiated, with the result that price formation has been too much influenced by one-sided interests, be it those of producers or of consumers.

Efficiency and acreage premiums, partly in kind, may provide a solution, and a credit policy, especially designed to achieve these ends, would be of the greatest value.

The Target

Our aim must be to reduce, as far as possible, food purchases abroad by increasing the local output of food for marketing, in addition to the output already forthcoming. Some new form of diversified farming must therefore be developed which will provide substantial supplies of both protective food such as milk, eggs, vegetables, and basic field crops, such as wheat, oil-seeds and sugar.

This target can be reached in a few years of continuous effort, if an appropriate policy is worked out and adhered to, even against serious odds. We must realize that we have reached a crossroad in agricultural development, where new aspects require a new approach.

Israel's agriculture must become

the source of supply for all major needs, so that imports can gradually be reduced to those commodities which, even in the long run, cannot be produced locally at reasonable cost. This remaining import could be balanced by exports of citrus and other agricultural products. With regard to farm products, the country can, on these lines, become independent of foreign currency in the foreseeable future.

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THE POLITICS OF CONTROLS

By HANS MOLLER

We are far away from times or conditions where the economy of a country could be allowed to develop without interference. The amount of interference varies, but everywhere, if a reasonable standard of living is to be achieved, must Government be responsible directly or indirectly for coordinating production in various fields, for regulating production in accordance with consumption and, sometimes, consumption in accordance with production.

Other, particularly greater, nations have tried to solve the problem of a highly developed and at the same time self-sufficient economy by economic methods of an imperialistic nature. In Israel, as in other small countries, the goal must be one of cooperation with other countries, of getting from them what we cannot — or not economically — produce ourselves and to supply in return our products or services.

Apart from the necessary adjustment of our economy to these requirements, we still need basic development, that is to say the establishment of rapid expansion of such industries or services without which direct production of goods cannot be achieved. Public utilities as such, and because of their mostly monopolistic character, must be put under public control. In a small and underdeveloped country the comparative scope of such control is greater, because in larger countries it is easier to avoid monopolies, and in more developed ones a smaller part of production and services has basic functions.

It is, therefore, clear that we must have a central control of economy; the question is only that of its reasonable limits and its quality. This question is being violently discussed, particularly more recently. It has become one of the outstanding political issues. The scope of controls cannot be determined without regard to the way in which they are — and practically can be — affected.

Ideological Clash

In general, Government's performance in this field has been poor. Its supporters refuse to fully acknowledge this fact, and its opponents overstate it to the extent of denying the necessity of controls. This, of course, has ideological reasons too. The socialists, or better labourists, believe in a fully controlled economy — the others in the opposite.

The antagonism of these two beliefs has become a world-wide topic after World War I. This war actually closed the period of economic liberalism which was inaugurated by the Industrial revolution; it was carried by private or individual initiative and determined accordingly the trend of thought and action for almost two centuries. War and post-war exigencies, the violent alternations of boom and crisis caused by a rapid and unbalanced expansion of production made the necessity of a central control of economy obvious. Claiming a free economy in the old meaning of the word is henceforth impossible; but it is equally obvious that the country, namely a totally controlled economy, if it can be successfully achieved at all, can only be carried out in a totalitarian regime.

Both free enterprise and controlled economy are the roots of modern life. They are bound to co-exist and must be co-ordinated. Unfortunately, the ideological paralysis of minds prevents both supporters and opponents of Government from realising that this is so and from doing their best in order to arrive at a productive synthesis. They grudgingly and reluctantly accept compromises which even temporarily are no solutions and make our situation more difficult than it is bound to be anyway.

The division of minds according to party slogans and their resulting

ling statification has a bearing on our economy. It is not only generally by barring the way to a coordination of governmental and private activities in the economic field, but by driving a wedge into our economic body itself. We are faced, almost day by day, by some complaint, accusation, apology, or boasting of success referring to what is called either the private or the collective sector. A textile mill or a steel plant may claim allocations of material because it is producing efficiently and its products are needed for home consumption or export. But how is one to understand such demands if they are based not on economic considerations but on the structure of the undertaking, on the fact that it is owned by one person or another, by a private company or the Labour Movement? Yet, this is the accepted approach.

We have, as well as other communities, a cooperative system in the distribution and partly in the production of goods. We have, at the same time, a strong organisation of labour. They are intended to protect the economically weak, both as employees and as consumers. On the other hand, one of the inherent handicaps of production, particularly of large industrial production by Labour itself, is the identity of employer and employee.

Labour Labels

No undertaking can prosper if its interests cannot be defended on their own merits in the same extent as Labour's interests are protected on theirs. This is apparent in the generally low efficiency of Labour's industrial undertakings. Still, Labour itself and Government with it, are used to look upon any such undertakings as upon a public utility, for no other reason than that it is Labour-owned, and some of them are even used as Government Agencies irrespective of their performance.

This attitude is caused not only by a certain and not always unjustified distrust of the fellow Israeli who happens to be a private capitalist, but by the easily understandable, though wrongly applied, preference of the workers or would-be workers and their Government for whatever is labelled as "Labour."

This approach has a history. In the early days when the country was lacking basic industrial equipment and more than today, much had to be undertaken which happened to be undertaken by private capital. In other industries, private undertakings got into difficulties partly because of lack of funds, partly because conditions forced us to do less favourable than necessary. They were taken over by Labour, some did up well by private owners. In most cases, therefore, the country was saved if the economic function of the privately owned or the Labour-owned.

But conditions have changed, whether we like it or not, and the new kind of adventure, combined with the willfulness of any capitalist risk, are probably very negative results. Projects of money and equipment of foreign currency were undertaken in unnecessarily unusual. The operation of all kinds of these undertakings, say at least as much as those of any private one.

It is gratifying that this is now realised and criticised by some at least of the Histadrut leaders themselves. But the main reason for all it is that these undertakings have nothing to lose financially, since they rely (or believe they can rely) on outside support in an emergency.

Private enterprise in this country has not yet, on the whole, shown very much to be proud of. But one must admit that it was and still is handicapped by the poor standard set by the more powerful collective sector.

The time has come when every effort must be made to increase productivity by removing any kind of undue economic protection. Both the private and the collective sector must learn to go the hard way. Their task is the same, and success or failure is the only valid criterion for all.

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PROGRESS: IN FIGURES

Table 6: Motor Vehicles

	Total	Passenger	Commercial	Taxis	Private Cars	Motorcycles
1948	4,300	800	710	3,000	1,000	700
1949	22,700	22,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1950	20,000	18,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1951	20,000	18,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
(Sept.)	20,000	18,000	1,000	1,000	11,000	9,000

Table 7: Sale of Electricity (in 1,000 KwH)

	Total	Industry	Irrigation	Other Purposes
1948	22,640	4,000	4,000	4,000
1949	28,200	6,000	6,000	6,000
1950	24,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
1951	26,170	5,700	5,500	5,700
(Jan.-June)	12,400	81,513	67,000	134,126



The distribution of sales between the two Electric Corporations in 1950 and 1951 (in 1,000 KwH) was as follows:

	1950	1951
Palestine Electric Corporation	454,000	460,000
Jerusalem Electric Corporation	442,433	434,000
Total	896,433	894,000

Table 8: Actual Revenue and Expenditure of Government

Revenue Expenditure
(IL) (IL)

1948/49 4,610,917 2,516,704

1949/50 6,760,202 6,004,726

1950/51 140,000,771**

*) Includes Development Budget revenue IL 61,122,078.

**) Includes Development Budget expenditure IL 61,817,000.

Note: No final figures are yet available for actual revenue and expenditure for later years. The Budget for 1951/52 amounts to IL 300,000,000 (including IL 11,000 Development budget).

Table 9: Currency in Circulation Deposits

	1947 (January)	1948 (October)	1949 (January)	1950 (January)	1951 (January)	1952 (November 13)
(At end of year or month)						
COMMERCIAL BANKS						
1948			10,720			
1949			137,121			
1950			273,222			
1951			113,000			
1952 (August)			10,000			
CRDIT COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES						
1948			22,244			
1949			27,225			
1950			26,137			
1951			20,000			
1952 (August)			10,000			

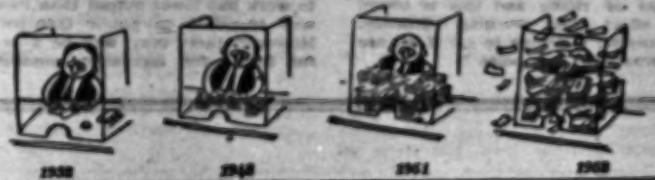


Table 10: Jewish Cooperative Societies on Record

Year 1947 1948 1949
No. 210 210 210
Total 2,300 453,000 IL 20,000,000

1) Number of Societies; 2) Number of Members; 3) Total own Resources (plus capital plus reserves).

(a) The total number of Jewish Cooperative Societies on register in 1950 was 2,300. As only 1775 supplied information, it is estimated that the total number of members and total own resources are much higher. It should be noted that the same person may be a member of several cooperatives.

Table 11: Wholesale Prices

Unit L.P. IL

Bread Ton 10,700 72,700

Barley Ton 1,300 87,000

Rice - 10,000 100,-

Beef - 64,200 1,272,-

Eggs 1,000 2,000 45,-

Milk Kilolitre 24,- 372,-

Butter Kg. 0.120 1.000

Potatoes Ton 8,000 100,000

Beans - 9,- 100,-

Tomatoes - 11,300 131,000

Onions - 0.200 151,000

Coffee beans - 75,200 1,252,-

Sugar, granulated - 20,- 78,-

Salt - 0.800 38,-

Soap - 35,700 265,-

Kerosene 200 litres 0.800 4.00

Bassine - - 240 30,000

Aug 1949

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steamer "JOSEF" in break-
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Table 12: School Population in Jewish Public Education System

Year 1947 1948 1949
District Tel Aviv

Total Pupils 23,911 278,144

Teachers 920 20,922

Kindergarten Pupils 4,877 58,225

Teachers 379 2,004

Elementary Schools Pupils 16,022 181,000

Teachers 877 12,267

Secondary Schools Pupils 1,004 26,502

Teachers 96 1,880

Other Schools Pupils 472 26,904

Teachers 39 2,304

Hebrew University Students 100 0,000

Teachers 57 0,000

Table 13: Jewish Settlements

Year 1947 1948 1949
Established 12 8 4

Established 137 6 8 116

Today 2) Towns 3) Villages 0

<p

BEFORE the establishment of the State of Israel, the Statistical Department of the Jewish Agency collected a wealth of information on immigration, population, settlement, and other problems, and from time to time also carried out censuses of agriculture, industry, labour, etc. However, only a certain proportion of this information was regularly and systematically followed up year by year, with the result that in any attempt to compare the specific year 1932 with today, data can serve only as an indication for estimates.

In the compilation of the following tables use has been made mainly of official statistics of the Government of Palestine, the Jewish Agency, and the Central Bureau of Statistics and Economic Research of the Israeli Government. In addition data available from the Keren Kayemet and Vaad Leumi and, in some instances, from foreign publications have also been used. Figures on the Jewish estimated areas in 1932 are based on estimates.

While the figures are mostly in respect of the Jewish population, some tables refer to the whole population — chiefly where no separate data are available (e.g. for foreign trade, Government budgets, sales of electricity, etc.). It must refer to the

COMPILED BY
HAIM TADMOR

Table 2: Age Distribution
(in percentages)

Age Groups	Total Main Frame		
	1932 (The Yishuv in Palestine)	1940	1945
0—4	22.8	22.7	22.4
5—9	20.2	20.7	20.2
10—14	21.4	21.5	21.2
15 and over	35.6	35.6	35.2

1951 (Jews of Israel)

Age Groups	1932	1940	1945
0—4	22.8	22.7	22.4
5—9	20.2	20.7	20.2
10—14	21.4	21.5	21.2
15 and over	35.6	35.6	35.2

Yishuv only, the fact is stated at the head of the table.

In general, data for 1932 and statistics available for Israel are compared, but some tables relate to other periods.

Currency figures quoted in Israeli Pounds (£L) should be read in respect of the Mandatory Period as Palestine Pounds (L.P.). Account should be taken of the difference between the purchasing power of the currency of 1932 and that of 1945.

For reasons of space, a number of other significant tables had to be omitted.

Table 1: Total Area and Area Under Cultivation

Area	1932		1945		
	sq. km.	sq. miles	sq. km.	sq. miles	
Original Area of Palestine and Trans-Jordan under the British Mandate	237,000	45,392	Total Cultivated Area	4,000	2,500
Area of Palestine in 1932	27,000	5,380	Of This area Irrigated	1,500	1,000
Land Area	26,300	5,200	(a) Cultivated area of Jewish agriculture in Palestine.		
Water Area	700	270	(b) Total cultivated area (Jewish and other) in Israel in 1951.		
Area of Israel in 1951	20,000	5,000			
Land Area	20,400	5,000			
Water Area	600	270			

The 32 years of the Keren Hayesod's existence

have been a period of unceasing effort in laying the foundations for the State of Israel and placing it upon a firm basis after it arose.

During its existence, Keren Hayesod supplied everything required for the upbuilding of the State, but the two pillars of its ramified activity are immigration and settlement on the land.

With the emergence of the State, the dimensions increased and Keren Hayesod, as the central financial instrument of the Zionist Movement, is now required to grow and adjust its financing activity to the needs of the new period.

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TWENTY YEARS OF

Table 3: Jewish Immigration

Year	1948, May to December	1949
1948	204,700	1949
1949 to Establishment of State	230,714	1949
May 15, 1948 to December 31, 1950	710,000	1950 (estimated)

1948—1949

1949—1950

1950—1951

1951—1952

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2033—2034

2034—2035

2035—2036

2036—2037

2037—2038

2038—2039

2039—2040

PROGRESS: IN FIGURES

Table 6: Motor Vehicles

	Total	Commercial	Passenger	Commercial	Total	Private Cars	Motorcycles
1952	4,400	800	3,600	100	4,400	3,000	700
1953	10,700	2,000	8,500	100	10,700	6,000	7,600
1954	20,000	4,000	16,000	100	20,000	8,000	12,000
1955	30,300	7,000	23,300	100	30,300	11,000	19,300

Table 7: Sale of Electricity (in 1,000 Kw.H)

	Total	Industry	Irrigation	Other Purposes
1952	22,000	4,000	4,000	4,100
1953	30,000	6,000	6,000	18,000
1954	40,000	8,000	8,000	24,000
1955	50,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
1955 Jan-June	22,000	6,000	6,000	12,000



The distribution of sales between the two Electric Corporations in 1953 and 1955 (in 1,000 Kw.H) was as follows:

	1953	1955
T & T A.B.	40,000	50,000
Palestine Electric Corporation	40,000	50,000
Jerusalem Electric Corporation	30,000	30,000

Table 8: Actual Revenue and Expenditure of Government

	Revenue (IL)	Expenditure (IL)
1952/53	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953/54	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954/55	1,000,000	1,000,000

*) Includes Development Budget revenue IL 1,133,078.
**) Includes Development Budget expenditures IL 98,507,000.
Note: The final figures are not available for actual revenue and expenditure for later years. The Budget for 1952/53 amounts to IL 1,000,000 (including IL 100m. Development budget).

	1952 (January)	1953 (January)	1954 (January)	1955 (January)
1952 (October)	3,200,000	3,200,000	3,200,000	3,200,000
1953 (January)	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000	30,000,000
1954 (January)	50,000,000	50,000,000	50,000,000	50,000,000
1955 (January)	70,000,000	70,000,000	70,000,000	70,000,000
1952 (January)	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000
1953 (January)	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000
1954 (January)	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000
1955 (January)	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000

	1952	1953	1954	1955
1952	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1955	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

	1952	1953	1954	1955
1952	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1955	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

Table 10: Jewish Cooperative Societies on Record

Year	No.	No.	No.	No.
1952	210	50,145	1,070,000	1,070,000
1953	210	49,349	1,060,000	1,060,000
1954	210	49,349	1,060,000	1,060,000
1955	210	49,349	1,060,000	1,060,000

1) Number of Societies 2) Number of members 3) Total own resources (does not include capital plus reserves).

(a) The total number of Jewish Cooperative Societies on register in 1955 was 2,200. As only 1,770 supplied information, it is estimated that the total number of members and total own resources are much higher. It should be noted that the same person may be a member of several cooperatives.

Table 11: Wholesale Prices

Unit	1952	1953	1954	1955
bread	100g	100g	100g	100g
barley	kg	kg	kg	kg
Rice	kg	kg	kg	kg
Sugar	kg	kg	kg	kg
Milk	Kilolitre	Kilolitre	Kilolitre	Kilolitre
Butter	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.	Kg.
Potatoes	Ton	Ton	Ton	Ton
Bacon	kg	kg	kg	kg
Tomatoes	kg	kg	kg	kg
Olive oil	kg	kg	kg	kg
Coffee beans	kg	kg	kg	kg
Sugar, granulated	kg	kg	kg	kg
Hall	kg	kg	kg	kg
Eggs	kg	kg	kg	kg
Kerosene 300 litres	kg	kg	kg	kg
Bacon	kg	kg	kg	kg

	1952	1953	1954	1955
1952	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1955	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

	1952	1953	1954	1955
1952	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1955	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

	1952	1953	1954	1955
1952	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1953	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1954	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1955	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

OVERALL PLAN NEEDED TO DEVELOP ROAD.

By Our Special Correspondent

THIE spirit of improvisation and the organizational method of independent partisan action together played an important role in the creation of the State. Now, five years later, improvisation and partisan action are slowly giving way to planning and central direction. This trend is evident in the recent framing of a budget of foreign currency income and expenditure linked to a centrally controlled import plan. However, this is still music for the future in so far as it concerns many other vital aspects of our economic life—first and foremost in the broad field of over-all development and then in smaller but nevertheless important segments such as transport.

Transport as an integrated whole exists only in newspaper articles. Not even the Ministry of Transport—now a separate department—has the task of considering transport as a whole. The building of roads is the prerogative of the Ministry of Labour while there is no single body authorized to determine an over-all plan embracing road, rail, sea and air transport and thus ministering to the country's total transport needs. Even within the Ministry of Transport itself there is no coordination of plans for road, rail, water and air development, at any rate as far as can be learned from outside. Each has developed as a sphere of independent action, each competes for foreign currency, each forwards its own development plans, and the decisions are made between them not on the basis of a technically integrated over-all transport development plan, but on the basis of administrative judgments— informed judgments let us assume, but scarcely expert determination.

Of course, it is not enough to integrate road, rail, water and air transport facilities, though this would be enough for a hypothetical **Transport Board** to attempt. After all, the location of homes and of work-places creates many of the problems which transport must later solve. Obviously, such an Israel Transport Board

would have to be represented on and take directives from the equally hypothetical Israel Development Board (not to be confused with that existing body, with much narrower functions, called the Development Authority).

Most branches of transport today face common problems in the form of rising costs, antiquated equipment, and inadequate operational and organisational methods.

The first requirement of road transport is a suitable network of well-constructed roads. Here, the antiquated road-building equipment at our disposal is being utilized, in the opinion of foreign experts, at a high level of efficiency. The need for a large programme of road-building, especially in the Negev, seems obvious. Future plans (made in the Ministry of Labour) must take into account not only the general development plans, the foreign capital likely to be available and local employment policies, but also plans (made in another Ministry) for the purchase of buses, trucks and cars, and finally plans for development of the railway system.

As is well-known, there has been in progress, for some time, a tug-of-war between the bus cooperatives

on the one hand and the Ministry of Transport and the Histadrut on the other. The cooperatives have been agitating for substantial increases in fares, pointing to the rapid rise in the cost-of-living allowances paid to employees, to the increased costs of repairs and spare parts, and to the very high cost of new vehicles.

On the other hand, the Histadrut and the Ministry, encouraged by public opinion, have been insisting that Eshkol first put his own house in order—bring the inflated incomes of its members into line with current Histadrut rates and radically improve its services.

Since the beginning of this year bus fares have risen first by 25 per cent, then a further 15 per cent—this has resulted in a decrease of approximately 10 per cent in the numbers of passengers. What will be the effect of the current and third increase of 25 per cent? A



New roads and good roads are a pre-requisite to developing transport and industry. Above is a view along the road under construction from Kurnub to the Potash Works at Sdom. The road makers are already in sight of the Dead Sea.

further drop in the volume of traffic seems inevitable.

The decreased use of buses means a saving of foreign currency to the State (less petrol, tyres etc.) and this is obviously good—but it has its disadvantages too, because it means, for example, that many workers will expend valuable energy walking long distances to work instead of riding and this is bound to affect their working efficiency. Is anyone watching to see if we are approaching that point?

An interesting sidelight on the problems of bus transport was the emergence, some months ago, of a campaign in favour of the bicycle as a solution to our problems. Those who have tried cycling under the summer sun will need no convincing of the drawbacks—even in France it was found that workers who cycled to work had lower output than those who travelled on public transport. However, there may well be a useful future for increasing numbers

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HOW CHEAP IS ELECTRIC POWER

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Notwithstanding the steep rise in all agricultural production costs, electricity remains still one of the cheapest services in the cultivator's budget.

Taking three examples, the following table shows how much the prices of agricultural products have risen during the years 1948-1952, compared with the increase in the price of electricity for irrigation in the same period.

The commodity prices quoted are official retail prices, the price of electricity being the average rate per kilowatt-hour.

Year	Dollars of new age	Price of one litre of milk	Price of 1 kg. of potatoes	Electric power per kWh. charged	
				Without load charge	With load charge
December 1948	\$1.2	21.0	21.0	4.27	4.27
— 1949	21.0	101.0	101.0	4.27	7.27
— 1950	21.0	101.0	101.0	4.27	6.27
June 1952	61.0	201.0	201.0	4.27	54.27

* Weekly average

** 8 months' average

RAIL, SEA AND AIR TRANSPORT

of powered cycles such as the Vespa, so popular in certain countries of Europe today.

The position with taxis is very similar to that of the bus—rising costs leading to a demand for and the partial granting of higher fares leading in its turn to a falling off in the number of passengers.

Fares charged by "Black" taxis are today frequently below the official rates and there is some difficulty in booking seats on the regular services. The existing companies are trying to protect their position by demanding the freezing of the number of taxis at their present level and the recent granting of a license to a new company to operate a fleet of 80 taxis was met with a brief protest strike. Such action is, at the moment, against the public interest, although many believe that the inflated use of taxis in Israel is merely an expensive corollary to the inadequacies of bus and train facilities.

As a result of Government policy in several fields, the costs of private motoring have increased considerably since 1951. The new exchange rates have trebled the cost of spare parts which are still scarce; fuel costs are way up, and there has recently been a steep increase in licensing fees of all sorts.

Add to this the substantial rise in insurance rates due to the ever-increasing number of accident claims, and it will be realized that private motoring has today become a luxury to be indulged mainly by those members of the public who are in the fortunate position of being able to charge their expenses against their employers or against their income tax.

The trucking industry has been hit not only by sharply rising costs, but also by the drastic curtailment of imports which formed an important part of its trade. The existence of a healthy trucking industry is essential to the economy of the country and is also vital from the security point of view.

In recent months a Public Committee has been set up, composed of representatives of the industry and Government, whose terms of reference are to investigate and make proposals for increasing the efficiency of the industry. This committee is devoting much of its time to the problem of how to reduce to a minimum the "empty mileage" caused by the haphazard distribution of our towns and industries in relation to our principal port. That is to say that trucks normally travel fully loaded from the North, Haifa, Tel Aviv, etc., to the South, Jerusalem and the Negev, but that they find it difficult to obtain return loads.

At the same time the Government is currently carrying out its first census of goods carried by road, and the results of this are expected to provide a sound basis for improved planning.

During the past twelve months, the railway has been making valiant efforts to attract custom, both passengers and goods, away

Railway from the roads. It has been handicapped, however, by shortage of capital, especially foreign exchange, to enable it to purchase additional coaches, to improve the permanent way, etc.

However, with the introduction of the new diesel engines, the timetable has been speeded up and the improved service, coupled with increasing bus fares, has diverted passenger traffic to the railway. While there has been a fall of approximately 10 per cent in the number of bus passengers, as compared with last year, the number of passengers using the railway has increased by 30 per cent.

Further substantial improvements will have to await the arrival of additional and more comfortable coaches and the duplication of the existing single track, all of which measures involve the outlay of large sums of capital.

It is a matter of very careful consideration whether such heavy investment is economically justified. We must not forget that Israel is a small country and as such offers little scope for those long hauls for which a railway system is ideally suited; furthermore, in a new country barge and truck are more flexi-

ble. Another factor is that of security — our North-South line is highly vulnerable.

The Israel Merchant Marine continues to make good progress. On the passenger side Shalom continues to transport large numbers of tourists and, in spite of the unfortunate incident of the "Zimriyah" group, it is maintaining its high standards of service.

At the same time the citrus export season the Port should again come to life, though the drastic restriction of imports imposed on us by the lack of foreign exchange is militating against the need for the planned expansion of Haifa Port itself and the Eshkol development. In the light of this situation the proposed transfer of cargoes from Haifa to Tel Aviv-Jaffa Port will require careful consideration.

As far as freight is concerned, our cargo ships are today to be found in the ports of all four continents. There can be no doubt that

Port the existence of a thriving Israel merchant fleet is serving the dual purposes of saving the country's scarce foreign currency and also freeing us from dependence on foreign-owned shipping in times of emergency.

Perhaps less dramatic, but no less important, is the question of Israel's ports. For more than half a year now, Mr. Boris Stern, the expert sent us by UN, has been making strenuous efforts to improve the efficiency of Haifa Port. Unfortunately, the port has been very quiet in recent months so that we have not yet had an opportunity of judging the extent of his achievements.

It is also unfortunate that no action has yet been taken on the recommendations of the so-called "Solemn Committee" which, after hearing testimony for many months concluded, after all, that authority over operation of the Port should be concentrated in a type of Port Authority rather than remain dependent on long-distance supervision from Jerusalem.

With the beginning of the new



One of the Israel Railways' new Diesel locomotives.

citrus export season the Port should again come to life, though the drastic restriction of imports imposed on us by the lack of foreign exchange is militating against the need for the planned expansion of Haifa Port itself and the Eshkol development. In the light of this situation the proposed transfer of cargoes from Haifa to Tel Aviv-Jaffa Port will require careful consideration.

This brief summary will have made it clear that the question of transport in Israel is an exceedingly complex one with many involved problems to be solved. In view of this, it is to be regretted that up to now the Government does not appear to have examined the matter from the point of view of ensuring proper balance and coordination.

In sufficient attention is being paid to comparative costs and the development of investment and pricing policies. Moreover, the whole picture is distorted by the continued existence of a seller's market for many products which relieves producers of the necessity to find the cheapest means of transport. Nor can the security aspect of transport planning be ignored.

It may well be that nothing short of a Transport Board, responsible for long-range planning of transport as a whole and for authoritatively guiding the Ministry of Transport and other Ministries in the fulfillment of its plans, can hope to cope with problems of such importance and complexity.



46 YEARS AGO

a small oil and soap factory was erected in the then desolate Haifa Bay. Its founders, however, foresaw the great industrial possibilities of Israel and called it "Atid" — "Future", in Hebrew.

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SPECTACULAR INSURANCE BOOM

By MORRIS W. ERHARD

WITHIN the last twenty years, an independent insurance business has been developed in this country. Its forerunners were branch offices of foreign companies, and it is only fair to say that their organization and experience has largely benefited the new local companies.

Today, there can be no longer any doubt that competition with foreign insurance is not only possible but has been highly successful. Whereas the share of local companies in the total insurance business was about ten per cent 18 years ago, it has now risen to no less than 70 per cent.

Apart from the advantages for the individual insurer, local companies are making a considerable contribution to the whole national economy. It is estimated that investments of their accumulated capital resources have by now reached the respectable amount of approximately 10 million Israeli Pounds. These investments include some four million in mortgage loans, and about IL 2.8m. in securities. In this latter field, insurance companies are playing an increasingly important part; not only are their securities holdings, as a rule, considered as more or less permanent investments, but whenever new issues are offered, or when municipalities and other bodies are in need of capital, insurance companies are invited to participate.

The size of these investments would be still higher if the public at large would show the same interest in life insurance as is the rule in many other countries. Much could be done in this direction by Government, if income tax relief for

The following table gives a few significant figures of 10 local companies for the year 1951 (in IL):

Company	Paid up Capital	Life Insurance Portfolio	Total Premium Income	Insurance Pounds
Hanomek	100,000	IL 331,750	9,157,145	2,512,755
Migdal	110,000	8,068,475	876,300	3,527,905
Eton	99,750	5,300,000	1,348,477	1,121,834
Judea	129,000	5,500,000	762,000	2,054,961
Binyan	111,651	145,000	548,115	214,299
Mosheh	75,000	2,128,000	377,150	307,424
Sohar	60,000	—	126,349	67,125
Phoenix	60,000	373,145	341,054	141,196
Jordania	60,000	—	126,000	62,459
Seia	25,700	—	35,830	21,917

premiums were more adequate than it is at present. Apart from the creation of new resources in the field of public finance, it is not always realized that insurance premiums, too, play their part in the fight against inflation by absorbing not inconsiderable amounts of money in circulation.

Income Tripled

Since the War of Liberation, insurance business has shown a spectacular expansion. Whereas in 1948 aggregate premium income was about IL 4m., it has risen to approximately IL 12m. in 1952. All companies, the five older ones as well as the nine founded after 1948, can show satisfactory results, despite rising costs, and several companies have been able to maintain, during many years, a six per cent dividend distribution to their ordinary shareholders.

There is certainly no need for new companies, or for new branches of foreign companies, when already about 70 of the latter are represented in the country. On the other hand, foreign investment capital could find useful and sound opportunities in the form of mort-

gage loans, for instance, or by participation in new capital issues of local companies.

Reinsurance Started

In the field of the reduction of foreign currency requirements, too, our companies are playing their part. In their view, foreign currency for insurance purposes should be allocated only where absolutely necessary. In this respect, several local companies have greatly improved the position by founding the "Zemal Reinsurance" which retains in the country about 50 per cent of premiums. Moreover, most local companies are in a position to compensate their own insurance abroad with reinsurance accepted from abroad, thereby obtaining balances in foreign currency. This particular form of invisible export should not be underestimated.

The further development of this branch of Israel's economy which employs a great number of persons including new immigrants, can be assisted in various ways. It will become necessary to establish training courses for insurance personnel, and perhaps also a chair for insurance at the University. The supervisory department of Government, if adequately staffed, can contribute much towards strengthening public confidence, but no experiments with nationalization — such as workers' compensation — should be contemplated.



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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1951

THE ELASTIC CORRIDOR

By CHAIM L. SHAPIRA

THIS road seems to wind inexorably, beginning at further and further away from the ruined and populous country of Tel Aviv; who ever dreams of halting over a Capital in some hilly district, harassed as by enemies, fed with a famine? The Corridor was very long after the siege: every movement and alteration could be measured in days.而现在, at the far end of this road we're into dangerous territory — just west of Jerusalem outside the city.

The answer was dictated four years ago; today, by virtue of its own recuperation, Jerusalem has become in the Corridor; once more isolated in the Capital brings it into the centre and away from the periphery. That anyone should have dared to site a factory in such ruined isolation was largely due to the Jerusalem Economic Corporation, appointed "the main instrument for the development and expansion of Jerusalem," in a Knesset resolution, August 1949.

30 Enterprises

Chief participants in managing and financing the Corporation are the Government, the Jewish Agency and Jewish National Fund, with United aid from the Histadrut and the General Zionists equally. Mr. M. Shattner is the Chairman of the Corporation's Executive. An additional eight have been added to the list of sponsors: now, the Jerusalem Municipality gave its formal blessing, but that is about all. The reduced tax on sales for industrial purposes was extended, and even after the Knesset had voted aid to foreign investors, young enterprise in Jerusalem was not granted temporary respite from heavy taxes. However, there are cautious signs of a change in this cold-shoulder attitude. Even those well-informed Jerusalem folk who have watched a steady slope off Romema turn into a bolt of steel and cement will be surprised to learn that the Corporation has housed no less than 30 enterprises, covering 30,000 sq. metres.

Follow the new road curving past unfamiliar factory-facades until the tall white porticos of the Industries Building at Mikor Baruch beckon you inside. Recognising the practical value of standard factory units, the Corporation's architect designed a triple block, two-storeyed, with central thoroughfare and centralized services for dozens of little plants unable to afford such luxurious premises individually. Rent is lower than the similar Haifa Bay-side standard factories demand, with the additional benefit of hire-purchase terms. I use the adjective "luxurious" with qualification; the pressure of speed and cheapness has left its mark: already, paint and plaster disintegrate, doors buckle: some of the Romema building-plan was hasty and ill-conceived, particularly in the food-plants. But all in all, Jerusalem need not be ashamed of the frame its industry has received; what goes on within the frame is beyond the scope of the Corporation, and its sober colouring must be attributed to the general economic situation.

"My steel allocation is a joke; all very well for a one-man workshop,

but industry cannot exist here." The few Jewish Americans who returned "Harpa" packing and heating equipment there discovered in a year's full dose of trial and trouble that minimum government quotas meant disruption. In their corner of the Industries building, Maxie wrinkled his brow over a Ministry document, while his partner inspected the massive machinery which cut, pressed and bent the steel into components.

"Harpa's" works are an improved model rivalled only by two U.S. firms. Israel orders for the most "double-bottomed" variety have stepped up their sales sheet, but "Harpa" is interested in exports before home market. Industry production for raw materials this year, and next year it's cut to \$100,000, for local use and \$300,000 for exports; we find it extraordinarily hard to obtain credits for raw materials, even now. Suppose we do manage to get the place into production: just five months after our application the Export Institute gave the O.K. to a barter transaction with Turkey. It appeared that the trade departments of the Ministry did not favour barter, as the words say more than in straight buying. Now was this pioneer-like little plant this in disapproval of "unorthodox apparatus for export"? It was the general chorus.

"Eighty per cent of the applicants got export licenses within a couple of days," stated Mr. Manor, head of the Export Institute, which has been functioning only since April 1952. The very day I visited the Institute, I was taking up residence in a spartan compound behind the Ministry of Trade; its joining forces with the Export Advisory Centre will mean less rushing round Jerusalem. A much-needed merger of the import and export sections is at last on the agenda; at the moment, right hand inevitably suspects left hand of stealing advantage. The complicist relation between these bodies and the Trade division attached to the Prime Minister's Office in Hakhya did not exactly streamline procedure. Formalizing could be somewhat reduced: for example, a separate import license must be obtained for local and pre-scheduled material, and both must be vetted by separate authorities.

Shortage of Materials

Over all this, there hangs the loaden knowledge: however wisely materials are distributed, they do not nearly suffice. "Harpa" was forced to tap its U.S. connections for supply; the plight of those unable to count on non-payment imports was sharply illustrated by R. Friedman Ltd., whose plant at Givat Shaul made 90 per cent of the "pitillet" (small cooking stoves) in Israel. During the war, their 600 employees were squashed into old sheds in Jerusalem, working full-time on British tenders; and Arab countries used to be an eager market. Outside the factory, a modern clocking-in machine intended for a large staff hung next to a board almost empty of attendants. Barely a hundred men were scattered over the spacious three-storeyed plant, notwithstanding the near approach of winter and demand for heating stoves.

"We got 30 per cent of the mild steel sheets needed to keep our

Jerusalem Economic Corporation's three blocks of buildings in Mikor Baruch which accommodate a variety of enterprises in 10,000 sq. metres of floor space.

assembly-line going, even though \$100,000 worth of hexagonal columns went to Turkey and Cyprus." Sinking of output had not yet been balanced by the definite flag in home-buying.

The effect of deflation is felt by such enterprises as "Nachshon," whose products have rapidly seized the Israel market, but whose metal supply is adequate. Spick-and-span in the bright Romema home, "Nachshon" has been a modest and efficient dealer never: no more printing-type or hammers are being imported. Copper for electro-plating, brass and fine steel, came from inventors abroad. Quantities consumed are small, but labour involved is considerable. The quandary how to conquer "sales resistance" in Israel enough to beat deflation and pay their workers, has not been solved: 35 men were dismissed yesterday.

Competitive Goods

Plainly, "Nachshon" must look to foreign rather than home customers; it should not be beyond our economists in their governmental multiplicity to exchange cash earned abroad for Israeli pounds, through a barter agreement. Thanks to an exacting supervision of all stages from foundry to final paint, "Nachshon" can offer competitive goods: South Africa and Turkey have ordered locks and hinges in Jerusalem.

A hopeful way out of the no-new-material impasse can be seen at the Pepper Shoe Machinery plant, neighbour



THE INDUSTRIES BUILDING
IN JERUSALEM

hour of "Harpa" in the Industries Building. Massive iron castings are shipped from "Bogen" and "Denia," largest shoe-machinery works of France and Denmark, to their subsidiary in Jerusalem for all the intricate additions and finishing operations. Sixteen types of machines, demanding less complicated moulds, are cast in local foundries, and 20 types have been manufactured together with the foreign firms.

"The cost of transport and labour — about 300 per cent higher in Israel than in America, for example, — made export on a serious basis impossible, unless we could adopt a semi-barter system." The government's unilateral promise of government aid pointed to the soundness of such a deal. Alone of all the manufacturers I spoke to, he denied having met "red-tape" at the Ministry of Trade; not only did they promise the Jerusalem firm monopoly-sale of all shoe-machinery parts needed in Israel, but the Treasury agreed to take a mere 25 per cent instead of 50 per cent off foreign trade profits. No wonder Mr. Pepper had nothing but compliments for the engineers who were responsible for the "wonderful organization" of the Heavy Industries Division.

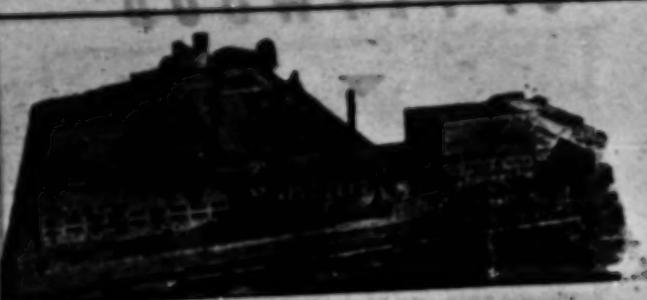
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Movies for the Millions

By ERNST MARDOVSKY

WHILE Hollywood has to face competition from the activities and development of Television and therefore progress — to name the ultimate — fantastic new visual and sound devices to attract audiences to the movie houses, the Israeli cinema industry is at present engaged in its own struggle against such familiar menaces as declining audiences on the one side and high taxation on the other.

Conditions have, as a matter of fact, deteriorated only during the last year. On the whole, the cinema business in this country has developed quite favourably since a pioneer in this field, Moshe Aharoni, established the first cinema, the "Eden" in Tel Aviv, some thirty years ago.

At present there are 220 cinemas, including 16 open-air establishments, which are operating on a commercial basis. They have a seating capacity for 70,000 patrons, employ about 1,200 persons, and offer the Israeli public all — or almost all — that the greatest manufacturers in the world are producing. In addition, there are about 200 cinemas in moshavot and settlements which are maintained by the cultural department of the Histadrut. Cinemas in Tel Aviv have over 10,000 seats, Haifa 31,000, and Jerusalem 5,400.

High Taxation

The owners of the cinemas are organised in the Israeli Cinema Owners Association, and it is this body which now leads a campaign for the reduction of taxation.

The Association argues that, while abroad taxes on cinema tickets are 25 per cent, they amount in Israel to between 50 and 100 per cent. Only the lowest price category (20 per cent of all tickets in each cinema) is taxed with 50 per cent, whereas on all other categories 100 per cent are levied in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Netanya and Petah Tikva, 50 per cent in Ramat Gan, and 50 per cent in Jerusalem. In other places the taxation is 50 per cent. The lowest ticket price is 100 pruta for the whole country, the highest in Tel Aviv and Haifa 600 pruta (equivalent to 250 pruta

not for the cinema owners), in Jerusalem 600 pruta, in the larger moshavot 400, and in smaller ones 200 pruta.

These prices, the cinema owners claim, are only 200-300 per cent above the producer entrance fees, while their expenses have risen by 500 to 1000 percent. U.S. film companies are not willing to reduce their rental fees, mainly because they have frozen funds in Israel of about IL 1,000,000; distribution of continental films is impossible since European firms cannot afford to leave their income in Israel; wages are government fixed; and finally the entrance fees cannot possibly be raised. Remains as the only expedient, the reduction of taxes.

The cinema owners also claim that, since 1950, they have been unable to replace their technical equipment, or to undertake essential renovations. But they will probably now benefit from the German reparations in the form of new equipment valued at 3,000,000.

As a regular observer of cinema activities in Tel Aviv, this writer is of the opinion that the neglect to be noticed in some of the establishments is not necessarily connected with the difficult economic conditions since 1950. There were periods when business was highly prosperous and equipment could have been replaced.

There are no cinema "chains" in this country, and only in one case a single person owns four cinemas (two in Tel Aviv and two in Haifa). About 90 per cent of the houses are in private hands, and in Ramat Gan all the cinemas have formed a pool. One fourth of Israel's cinemas are operated on a cooperative basis (all cinemas in Jaffa and the Tzemer and Eden in Tel Aviv).

As far as the management of the industry is concerned, there is still a long way to go. The cinema owners visited the cinema owners of the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries, who have a definite system of organization, and found that in most cases every cinema is a separate unit, with its own manager. The problem, however, is that in the majority of cases the cinema is not a separate unit, but part of a large company, group, or chain. This, naturally, creates a number of difficulties, which the owners have to face.

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Photo by BRAUN

New Land, Old Crafts

By OLGA LYNGFORD

FOR visitors to the WEIS Home Industries shop in Jerusalem know the story behind the collection of embroidery, jewellery and pieces of handicraft which are displayed. In any other country such a shop would be stocked from the workshops of wholesalers and merchants. Here, the way in which these goods are gathered together provides a sidelight into the big job of human rehabilitation which is the particular phenomenon of Israel in general, and of WEIS work in particular.

The embroideries, for instance, are not merely a copy of novel designs dreamed up by some enterprising artist. They are the ancient designs of Yemenites, stitched and woven judgements which go back thousands of years, and which are an integral part of their art-history.

Most of this natural treasury might have been lost but for the work of the WEIS Home Industries

Department, in which all over the country instructors set up workshops for the women, supplied them with materials, gave them designs for articles to be sold in the WEIS shops, and provided them, at the same time, with a source of livelihood and an outlet for their talents.

In the suburbs of Tel Aviv, just outside Jerusalem, for example, acting on a report from the Social Welfare Department of the Government, such a centre was set up and has brought remunerative work to many women.

In other parts of the country, varying according to the needs and kinds of people involved, there are workshops where the art-forms of many European countries are flourishing once again... fine jewellery, leather work, weaving, puppet-making and basket-work. Out of all these different sources and from all these utterly different backgrounds, come a living means.

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First Housing Project at Elath Under Way



Stone houses with tiled roofs specially designed to keep out the heat, are being erected as part of Elath's first extensive building project.
Photo by Schlesinger

Priority: Houses and Roads

THE 1951-52 programme for the housing of immigrants envisaged, according to a Ministry of Labour report, 48,000 units, but there were 134,000 immigrants to be housed — including the sorely-tried Iraqis, and so funds and labour had to be diverted largely to the building of temporary houses.

By the end of April, 1952, 6,000 permanent and 21,875 temporary units had been completed of the 1951-52 programme, as well as 15,045 units carried forward from the programme for 1950-51, a year in which 21,045 permanent and 11,000 temporary units had been built.

During 1951-52 contracts were awarded for construction of 18,284 permanent and 32,400 temporary units. The Jewish Agency was the contractor of 5,182 permanent units in settlements and it supplied all the temporary units.

The Division was directly responsible for putting up 1,800 permanent units during the year in Beersheba, making 3,000 added by it since 1949-50 to this rapidly developing town; and other noteworthy items were 300 permanent units on the northern frontier, 300 permanent units for immigrants in Tiberias, 500 in Migdal-Ashkelon, 500 in Afulah and 400 in Yekneim. Hatzor, a new county town in Galilee, now has its first houses.

A normal unit this year covered 24-27 square metres, but about 25 per cent of units are as spacious as 36-38 square metres.

Local Materials

The use of local materials has now advanced beyond the experimental stage, and alternative houses of rough stone or terra cotta are already tenanted in many places: the lack of skilled workmen is currently the main obstacle to the extension of this form of construction.

It is a Government decision to provide new housing for older settlers who are poorly accommodated at present. Units of 50-60 square metres — two rooms, hall, conveniences and balconies — are planned;

about 35,000 applicants have registered. Sites have been chosen, building designs drawn up to suit the topographical and climatic circumstances of each, and already roads are being laid and sewerage and water supplies installed.

Public Works

The Department, which has three quarries and five workshops of its own, maintained 2,150 kilometres of highways, finished 10 new roads with a total length of 125 kilometres, and is building 184 kilometres more. Altogether IL 6,237,710 was spent on road works out of the Development Budget during the year.

Telephone exchanges are being put up in Tel Aviv and Ramat Gan; and housing estates for Arab executives, new hospitals and extensions, institutions for juveniles, agricultural establishments and licensing offices: the cost of these and other Government buildings is IL 2,500,000.

Water-supply works are being carried out for Safad, and at Lod airport, and sewerage and drainage works at Rehovot, Migdal-Gad, Tiberias, Safad, Rishon le Zion, Ness Ziona and Jerusalem, Nahal Ha-Taninim (Wadi Zerka) and Enak Eshkol, among other places. In all, works undertaken by the Department in 1951-52 provided 1,124,000 work-days.

Work in South

The Department authorizes the importation of building machinery and distribution of asphalt and, through a Central Housing Commission, deals with everything that concerns the leasing of Government offices.

One or two undertakings, in which the Department plays an important part, call for special mention. The Beersheba-Sedot highway, 77 kilometres long, will link the potash works with the sea, passing through Nahatim, Bir Arara and Mamashit, and through Tel Yerusham, which is to be the pioneering nucleus of development for the whole southern mineral-bearing region. The technical difficulties have been tremendous.

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CHOCOLATE, LENTILS AND TEA MEAL

By E. MAYER-BENTOV

"God gives the nuts but does not crack them"—this old proverb conveys a two-fold lesson: it states the decisive part allotted to human effort, and it teaches the importance of method. We have all cracked nuts in various ways—with our hands and teeth, with stones and under our heels, but in the end we have found out that the nutcracker does the job in a more satisfactory way. Once invented, it has become an indispensable tool.

Here, in a nutshell indeed, are illustrated many of Israel's problems, economic and others. While it is easy to be wise after the event, it's not presumptuous to say that grievous mistakes and incalculable waste of effort and money could have been avoided if the wrong man and the wrong method—or no method at all—had been replaced at an earlier stage; if we had not persisted in experimenting when so many of the

KEREN FELMAN

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This Fund, expressly for the benefit of those who study the Torah in the Holy Land, was founded on May 12, 1942, from the legacy of the late Mrs. Malka Soligson (nee Sharashow) who died in Jerusalem on April 20, 1942. This was later augmented by her son Sam (Sandler) Soligson of New York.

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JERUSALEM POST ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT

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Its entire income is dependent upon voluntary contributions, locally and from abroad. The girl orphans, besides food, clothing, education and a sheltering Home, obtain a perfect all-round training which many other children cannot obtain in the home of their own parents.

NEW BUILDING NEEDED

Now they urgently need a large and modern building of their own! At present they have over 100 girls and new demands are made daily. Many refugee girls have been accepted as well as those orphaned in the past year.

Financial help in making their new Home a reality is urgently needed. A wide appeal is being made at home and abroad.

Endow something special or an everlasting memorial or donate to the Building Fund.

Contributions should be sent to P. O. Box 267, Jerusalem.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1952



Handled machines 600 tubes of "Barbasin" at the "Teva" plant.

tools we needed for the handling of our administrative and technical tasks had been invented and successfully used long ago.

All the same, success stories are not lacking in the records of the Yishuv. Chapters such as "Bibi" and "Conquest of Work," "Kibbutz" and "Histadrut." The "Revival of Hebrew" and "Hadassah," to name a few at random, show convincingly that the creative genius of the Jewish people which has given so much to other nations, has not become sterile on the soil of its own land.

Pioneers of Industry

A glance at the statistical tables assembled on other pages of this issue, is convincing and, in many respects, startling evidence of the achievements of these years. Figures cannot show, however, how much of this spectacular development was due to that private initiative which, in the history of the Yishuv, was more often than not deemed as the crazy obsession of a single man, when it was, in reality, the expression of farsighted vision.

In the field of industry, names of the most prominent pioneers, such as Pinhas Rutenberg, Moshe Novomeysky, or Aryeh Shemek, were not always the household words they are today; nor were the many others who took the risk of building factories in a "land unknown."

Not all of these firstcomers could succeed. In some cases, success

SEVEN BOTTLES

came only when the proverbial second or third hand took over. Classical examples are "Solid Bond," whose forerunner was in bad straits in the mid-twenties, or the "Aasis" factory.

The "Aasis" Concern

A visit on the spot, however, our story, is always instructive, if only because our "grey theory," when confronted with the positive fact, is apt to change its complexion. Take, for instance, the case of "Aasis."

After the breakdown of the founders, to whom credit must go for having started the industrial ex-

MEMENTO

Ben Zion used to say: "What Shlomo Adam had to carry out before he obtained bread to eat He planned, he sowed, he reaped, he bound the sheaves, he threshed and winnowed and selected the ears, he ground them, and sifted the flour, he baked them, and baked, and then ate; whereas I get up, and find all these things done for me. And how many labours Adam had to carry out before he obtained a garment to wear! He had to shear, wash the wool, comb it, spin it and weave it, and then at last he obtained a garment to wear; whereas I get up and find all these things done for me." *Talmud Berachot 5a.*

ploitation of citrus juice, the plant was, in 1939, taken over from the Official Receiver by the brothers Leon, Moše, Joseph and Shim'on Bejerano, and their brother-in-law Dr. Marco Romano—five Bulgarian-born Jews, who came to the country from Italy. Thanks to their energy and resources, the original firm soon established two daughter-companies—a cigarette factory and an alcohol distillery—and aggregate assets exceeded one million Israeli Pounds at the end of 1951. In the first nine months of 1952, sales of "Aasis" products amounted to IL 1,245,000, including nearly IL 400,000 exports; sales of the cigarette company were IL 2.1m., and those of the Distillery, IL 332,000.

or a total of IL 3.7m.—a sizeable increase over the LP 942,000 of 1948, even if account is taken of changed money values.

The Seven Bottles

Less imposing than the Aasis plant in Ramat Gan is the establishment of TAYA Ltd., a cosmetics factory in one of the upper stories of the Industry House on the Tel Aviv-Petah Tikva Road.

Here, the founders of a new industry were two German Jews, Max Ginzberg and Dr. Michael Levin. Cosmetics, of course, does not only mean lipsticks, rouge, and nail-polish, but also such essential articles as toothpaste and "Barbasin," described as "the largest-selling shaving cream in the world." This is an American patent which its holder brought into the firm as an "approved investment"—an interesting instance of American-Israel collaboration. Another product, attractively presented in an amphora-like container is their "Jordan Water," a serious competitor to Eau de Cologne; a tiny scroll is attached to it and explains the lotion in Hebrew, Latin, English and French, quoting Shlomo's advice to wash in Jordan water.

From 1933 onward, business expanded steadily. It employs about 40 people, its turnover was IL 120,000 last year, and IL 150,000 in the first nine months of 1952. Many of the products are exported to Turkey, Greece, Finland, Switzerland and the Belgian Congo. The value of those exports was \$7,000 in October and an estimated \$12,000 in November. The management finds Government officials very helpful, but procedure sometimes cumbersome.

Walking through the fairly cramped premises with their modern technical equipment, the present writer noticed on a shelf in the laboratory seven bottles with a peculiar looking liquid. "It is a new lotion we are trying," said Dr. Levin, the chief chemist, "the first two bottles, as you see, look rather muddy, but

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The late Chief Rabbi's life and soul were dedicated to the establishment and welfare of this holy Yeshivah, and even now—after his lamented death—his great spirit hovers therein and his sacred teachings continue among its many pupils from all lands, distinguished by talent and the knowledge of the Law.

The Central Universal Yeshivah carries an increasingly spiritual influence upon the life and bearing of our Yishuv, and yet even greater results await her now with the creation of an independent Jewish State and with it the momentous urgent need of firmly entrenching the laws of the Torah in Jewish life and the necessity to protect the traditional sanctity of our ever-lasting holy Metropolis—Jerusalem.

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91

AND A THREAD

from then on the stuff gets gradually better, and with the seventh bottle we have now reached a satisfactory formula. But mind you, it may sometimes take much more than seven experiments before we feel justified in marketing the product."

Forty Pounds Founders' Capital

One day in 1932, four workers in Tel Aviv, two of whom were carpenters, decided to open a cooperative workshop which they named "Ha'argaz," the Hebrew word for a box or case. As they had no money, each of them borrowed ten Pounds, and with the combined capital resources of forty Pounds they started making boxes for citrus fruit. The last balance sheet of Ha'argaz, Ltd., Metal and Wood Industry, shows that on March 31, 1951, fixed assets were IL 523,219; goods and sales, including orders in progress, reached IL 509,843; and profit for the year, IL 41,539. In addition, "Ha'argaz" have entered into partnership with AMCOR, a large factory of electric refrigerators.

The forty Pounds have been repaid long ago, the tiny workshop has developed into two large and modern factories, and citrus cases are no longer on the works programme. Last year, workers numbered about 800, but there is work today for about 350 only. During the last war, they executed large orders for the British Forces, but their main line of production used to be box bodies. About 70 out of every 100 boxes plying in the towns and on the roads of the country were fitted by Ha'argaz, but since last year the number has dropped to 60 or 50 per cent, mainly as a result of imports. This branch of the production has now been transferred to the new building. The old place has been adapted to the production of metal furniture and similar work, including, for instance, part of the air conditioning equipment at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot.

Conditions have become more difficult,

cult, said Mr. David Ben-Porath, a member of the management, but the cooperative character of the establishment has been preserved. Half of the IL 300,000 capital is owned by the members of the cooperative, includ-



FROM LAND TO LINEN

hand-grown flax in its natural state left, shows slender stalks and seed pods. When the stalk is broken (center), the fine linear fibres can be seen. These are spun into skeins (top right) and finally woven into pure linen (right).

ing salaried employees, the other half is controlled by the Histadrut.

Not less than in the private sector, increased productivity is one of the main concerns of this cooperative. They have developed a system of standardization, coupled with premiums for hours saved. In this way, considerable normalization of orders has been achieved, resulting in an overall drop of working hours required for a given process. It appears, however, that in this field too, the human element plays its part, for the workers' reaction is not unanimous: on the one hand, there is the fear of unemployment resulting from rationalization; on the other hand, higher premiums obtained in one department are encouraging recruitment in others.

"We have our worries as everybody else," said Mr. Ben-Porath.

"but never mind, we shall overcome them as we do in the past."

In Bialystok, 27 years ago, the ten members of the Yerushalmey family, whose head was a rope-maker, decided to forge their way into Palestine. The advance party, headed by Zalman, eldest of the four sons, started operations in a cellar in Tel Aviv where they wove hemp into sturdy rope. The meagre profits were split—one part helped to bring over the rest of the family, the other part was used for the purchase of a mechanical loom.

From 1933 onwards, the firm expanded steadily. On the eve of the second World War they had already 2,000 modern spindles, and in 1948 they could execute a rush order of the British Army for 5,000 big canvas tents. In 1944, the Yerushalmey family was instrumental, in partnership with the Histadrut, to secure Jewish ownership of the Neher Cement Works and the Shemen Oil Plant. Not all the story of this rapid expansion can be told here, but the latest link in the chain has a special significance. It is the Pinchon Works, Ltd., founded with the help of the Israel Bond Issue and other investments.

Tale of a Thread

Opening his drawer, Mr. Zalman Yerushalmey disclosed to his visitor a new world. "Do you know what this is?" he asked, pointing at a handful of slender stalks which, to the layman, looked like any corn growing in the fields. Then he broke one and extracted from inside a thin fibre. "This is our first flax," he said. "Here you see the thread in strands, and this is the product, pure linen, made in Israel from field to loom."

Flax was sown on 200 dunams in 1948, on 2,000 in 1951, and there will be 10,000 this December in settlements from the North to the Negev, on Government and Keren Kayemet land. The ready product contains an outlet of not more than 15 per cent of foreign currency for needs, but even that will be gradually eliminated. "Next year," Mr.

Two bodies on the "Ha'argaz" spinning line.

Yerushalmey said, "we hope to harvest 400 tons of linen fibre, enough for one million metres of linen cloth; and I promise you that Israeli linen will be as good as Irish linen."

The four visitors here described tell their own tale of initiative and perseverance. They also teach that "know-how" need not always be imported, and that experiments are sometimes the only way to successful, productive action. There is no more encouraging experience.

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1. Assistance to Refugees, of first consideration of this group period.
2. Help to prisoners and unemployed; apprenticed poor and orphaned children.
3. Birth-Yeshua (Tobah Bayt). Maintaining Rabbis, Talmudical scholars, Novels, books, regular allowances and general assistance to Talmud-Chachamim, Yeshiva scholars and Melamdim.
4. Kumba-Depsacha (Prisoner Assistance). General distribution of Matza and Passover assistance to every one of the poor and needy in Jerusalem, Rehov Tiberias.
5. Clothing and Accommodation. Building houses for residence by poor families in the Knesseth Israel quarter.
6. General Assistance. Festival help, Help towards road, Rachamim-Kalot (poor weddings), needy mothers of birth, help to sick and incurables, regular and general assistance to aged, widows and orphans.
7. Interest-Free Loans. Special fund for granting loans free of interest, to all poor Chassidim especially to those without means, widows, orphans, invalids.
8. Child Assistance. Talmudical scholars, Yeshiva students, Rehov Kook Street, New York City Address: Union Orthodox Synagogue, 224 W. Broadway.

JEWISH INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

JERUSALEM
MANUKKA WEEK FOR THE BLIND



Group of the latest blind children from the Immigrant Camps admitted by the Jewish Institute for the Blind in Jerusalem.

CONTRIBUTION TO: P.O.B. 925, JERUSALEM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1952

